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## WORLD NEWS

## Marcinkus warrant overruled

Italy's Supreme Court unexpectedly declared null and void yesterday the arrest warrants issued for Vatican Bank chairman Archbishop Paul Marcinkus and two other officials charged in connection with the 1982 Banco Ambrosiano crash.

The Court of Cassation in Rome had been expected to uphold the warrant issued by Milan magistrates. It is not yet clear if the ruling will mean Mr Marcinkus will be able to avoid being tried in absentia.

Back Page

## De Lorean withdrawal

The Government withdrew grants due to company which wants to buy the former De Lorean factory in Belfast after finding a leading figure had been jailed for deception.

## Pointdexter 'chilling'

The testimony of Rear Admiral John Pointdexter to the Iran-Contra hearings was "chilling", said co-chairman Senator Daniel Inouye. Back Page

## Baker warns schools

State schools which vote to opt out of local authority control will not be able to opt back in again, Education Secretary Kenneth Baker said. Page 4

## Air near-miss inquiry

The Civil Aviation Authority ordered an inquiry into how a British Airways jumbo jet came within 600 yards of an RAF Hercules over Carlisle.

## East German amnesty

East Germany abolished the death sentence and declared an amnesty for all prisoners except Nazi war criminals, spies, murderers and those convicted of crimes against humanity.

## Howard keeps post

John Howard retained the leadership of Australia's opposition Liberal Party, defeated in last week's federal election.

## Israel to review entry procedures

Israel is to review entry procedures following US protests at alleged discrimination against black and Arab Americans at Tel Aviv airport.

## Hassan home early

King Hassan of Morocco is to fly home today, ending his visit to Britain nine days early, because of "days back home".

## Flooding in Bangladesh

Floods have killed at least 10 people and made 10,000 homeless in southern Bangladesh in the last three days.

## Typhoon toll grows

The number of deaths confirmed after Typhoon Thelma hit South Korea rose to 77, with 162 people still missing.

## Yugoslav pay rise

Over 400 Yugoslav coal miners ended a three-day strike after winning a 50 per cent pay rise.

## Hopkins wins award

British actor Anthony Hopkins won the best actor award at the Moscow Film Festival for 84, Charing Cross Road. Best film was Fellini's The Interview.

## Affie Bass dies

Stage and screen actor Alfie Bass, star of the television series *Brooks and Sneed*, died of a heart attack, aged 70.

## Heavy breather

An Italian hotel charged a tourist an extra 20 per cent supplement for his wife "because two noses breathe more air than one", an Italian consumer organisation said.

## MARKETS

## DOLLAR

New York luncheon: DM 1.8565; FFr 6.1895; SFr 1.5495; Y1527; £1.3665 (1.837); FTT 0.183 (1.615); Y1527.5 (1.529); Dollar index Y1037 (102.9); Tokyo close Y151.5.

## US LUNCHEON RATES

Fed Funds 8.75%; 3-month Treasury Bill: yield 5.72%; Long Bond: 10.4%; yield: 8.54%.

## GOLD

New York: Comex August latest \$450.50; £453.25; Gold price changes yesterday, Back Page.

## BUSINESS SUMMARY

## Dollar regains ground

THE DOLLAR rose strongly yesterday, more than wiping off its losses after Thursday's news of widening in the US trade deficit. Foreign exchange dealers were hard put to explain the recovery, which saw the dollar currency closing in London at DM 1.8565 against DM 1.837 on Thursday.

Sterling remained firm against the DM, in spite of the Bank of England's selling of pounds against the West German currency to keep it below DM 3. It closed at DM 2.99 against DM 2.985.

However, the pound dropped against the surging dollar to close at \$1.6085 after £1.631. Currencies, Page 12

## TSB's £282m bid for Hogg rejected

BY HUGO DIXON AND NICK BUNKER

TSB, the financial services group, yesterday launched a £282m bid for Hogg Robinson & Gardner Mountain, the second largest insurance broking and travel-agency group. Hogg rejected the offer as inadequate and unacceptable.

The bid was at the centre of a complex series of deals in which another key player is Mr Robert Holmes a Court, the Australian financier.

TSB plans to sell Hogg's insurance-broking arm for £15m to Dewey Warren, a small re-insurance broker. Dewey Warren is 42 per cent owned by Bell Group International, Mr Holmes a Court's investment vehicle.

The Hogg deal is TSB's second major bid within a month. Last month it made a 222m offer for Target, the life-assurance and unit-trust group. TSB is flush with cash following its £15m flotation last September.

The new Hogg Robinson, valued by Hogg at £21.7m, would comprise everything except the insurance-broking business. It would be bolstered by a £3m share issue to fund expansion.

Hogg Robinson & Gardner Mountain's second company, Hogg's Lloyd's of London insurance-broking business, Merger talks between this and Pritchard Insurance, the Lloyd's broking subsidiary of Guinness Peat, the merchant banking group, collapsed last month.

Hogg said its travel, estate-agency and financial-services businesses had an outstanding record, excellent prospects and a very bright future as independent companies.

"As for insurance broking, it is not clear whether TSB intends to dump Hogg Robinson & Gardner Mountain on Dewey Warren or on Bell Group," Hogg said.

Hogg made post-tax profits of £1.5m in the year to March 31, to which the re-insurance side contributed £5.3m. The bid

Continued on Back Page

Hogg Robinson's cloudy horizon, Page 8

The bid's fate hinges on shareholders' reception of Hogg's plans, announced two weeks ago, to demerge into separate Stock Exchange-listed companies — Hogg Robinson and Hogg Robinson & Gardner Mountain. TSB's offer is conditional on shareholders rejecting the demerger proposal.

The demerger plan aims to free each side of Hogg's business to grow at its own pace. Shareholders are due to vote on the scheme at an extraordinary meeting on July 27. Hogg last night urged them to vote in favour.

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The bid's fate hinges on shareholders' reception of Hogg's plans, announced two weeks ago, to demerge into separate Stock Exchange

## OVERSEAS NEWS

### US threatens EC with sanctions over pasta trade

BY PETER MONTAGNON IN COPENHAGEN

A PASTA trade war is looming between the US and the EC from the beginning of next month, just as congressional debate on the trade bill reaches its decisive stage.

The US has told the EC it intends to impose punitive sanctions on imports of pasta exports from August 1 because of the failure of the two sides to resolve a long dispute over export subsidies.

Senior EC commission officials attending a conference on US-EC relations in Copenhagen said yesterday there was little chance of resolving the problem before the end of the month. The EC will then certainly take counter-action.

The US has been asking the EC to reduce export subsidies on pasta by at least 50 per cent on the grounds that it is a processed product which lies outside the normal agricultural exports system.

Under pressure from Italy and to a lesser extent Britain and Ireland the EC has been able to offer cuts of only about 20 per cent. Neither side is willing to shift further.

One senior European official who expects the US to impose

sanctions said yesterday: "I think we would have to retaliate fairly quickly."

The EC is concerned about the US sanction threat because it considers that its timing violates the interim agreement on the pasta issue reached last year.

That agreement provided for negotiations on pasta to continue without trade sanctions at least until Congress ratified a political agreement on citrus exports, which has not yet happened.

The US has not specified what form its sanctions would take but they are expected to involve punitive tariffs on European pasta products. In return the EC may impose restrictions on US exports of walnuts and probably on other products.

The amount of trade involved is small and both sides remain anxious to contain the dispute as far as possible.

The timing is regarded as unfortunate because it comes as the Senate is completing its deliberations on the trade bill, paving the way for a final version for presentation to President Ronald Reagan.

### Cash crisis looms for Government

BY STEWART FLEMING, US EDITOR IN WASHINGTON

THE US Federal Government ran out of authority to raise money on the financial markets yesterday, with Congress and the White House still deadlocked over what sort of legislation to pass in order to raise the limit Congress puts on the volume of outstanding government debt.

Budget experts on Capitol Hill said that the expiration of the debt limit will not have an immediate impact on the operations of the Government to finance its operations because the US Treasury has enough cash on hand to continue government operations until the end of the month.

According to one budget analyst, however, when the financial crunch does come, the Government faces the possibility of having to cut back on payments in order to conserve funds, the first people to be affected will be more than 30m old age pensioners whose social security payments are due on July 30.

The stakes therefore in the game of "chicken" being played over the debt ceiling are very high. Two things are at issue: whether to pass a "clean"

debt ceiling increase, as the White House wants (this would be a bill which simply raises the debt limit and nothing else); or whether to attach a provision to increase the debt limit in the reform of the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings budget deficit reduction. This would restore the mechanism for cutting spending automatically if the deficit reductions are not met.

Separately, it was reported yesterday that the White House has also now recognised that the federal budget deficit is likely to surge again in 1988 and 1989.

The Wall Street Journal yesterday quoted Mr Jim Miller, Director of the Office of Management and Budget, as saying that the White House estimates the 1987 fiscal year budget deficit at \$155bn, \$60bn lower than the 1986 deficit. But Mr Miller told a cabinet meeting on Wednesday that the deficit will widen again in 1988 and 1989.

According to the Congressional budget office which announced new deficit estimates on Tuesday, the 1989 deficit could be as high as \$198bn.

### India denies initiative to end Sri Lankan crisis

BY MERVYN DE SILVA IN COLOMBO

INTENSIVE diplomatic activity is under way in Colombo to try to find a solution to Sri Lanka's ethnic crisis although the Indian High Commission continues to deny officially that an Indian initiative is imminent.

Mr J. N. Dixit, the Indian High Commissioner, who has been given a great deal of discretion by power to Mr Rajiv Gandhi, India's Prime Minister, has had a number of talks with Sri Lankan ministers, culminating last night with an extraordinary meeting involving President Jayewardene and 10 senior ministers. They included six Sinhalese ministers (including the ministers of national security, finance, and lands) the government's two Tamil ministers and two Muslim ministers.

India's proposals for ending the violent ethnic conflict

between the Sinhalese and the minority Tamils are believed to include a merger of the Tamil north and the ethnically mixed eastern province.

Mr Dixit denied any proposals had been tabled and although the Sri Lankan government might find a way of granting a limited form of autonomy to the northern province it will be a major collapse of policy to include the ethnically mixed eastern province.

India's official position is that the ethnic conflict was entirely an internal problem but New Delhi has indicated it will not wait forever for the grievances of the Tamil minority to be met. Mr Gandhi, with 55m Tamils in the southern Indian state of Tamil Nadu and with his domestic policy in disarray, is determined to secure a foreign policy success in Sri Lanka.

### Mahathir to use UK visit to seek new investment

BY ROBIN PAULEY, ASIA EDITOR

DATUK SENI Dr Mahathir Mohamad, Prime Minister of Malaysia, begins his first official visit to Britain tomorrow, hoping that his "Buy British Last" campaign earlier this decade has been forgotten — or at least forgiven.

Dr Mahathir is bringing four senior ministers and a clutch of businessmen on the week-long visit during which he hopes to secure substantial investment in Malaysia by promoting the new foreign equity rules. Britain's conservative and politicians, Britain is Malaysia's fourth-largest trading partner.

With a slump in world commodity prices Malaysia is facing economic difficulties with rising debt and a sharp decline in growth. It is keen to forget the past and forge new and stronger ties with the West in spite of Dr Mahathir's professed hatred for communism. After Britain Dr Mahathir will visit Hungary and the Soviet Union.

Before leaving Kuala Lumpur Dr Mahathir appointed his supporters to senior posts in the United Malays National Organisation (UMNO), the ruling party, and removed people who

opposed him in the April party elections, none of whom have given any post yesterday.

Dr Mahathir won a new three-year term as party president against Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah, former Trade and Industry Minister, by 43 votes out of 1,747. The party has 180 of the 1,77 parliamentary seats and is the main partner in the ruling National Front Coalition. The UNMO party president traditionally heads the government.

Dr Mahathir will meet Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the British Prime Minister, and Sir Geoffrey Howe, Foreign Secretary. Both have been criticised by Malaysian government officials who accuse them of discrimination for increasing tuition fees for overseas students and for allowing changes to the terms on which tin is traded. Malaysia is the world's largest producer of tin.

Malaysia would like permission for more flights by the Malaysian Airline System to London. This is a request common amongst national airlines of developing countries.

### Ozal signs security agreement with Syria

By David Barchard in Ankara

THE Turkish Prime Minister, Mr Turgut Ozal, yesterday wound up a politically crucial visit to Syria with the signing of a joint security protocol.

Although it specifically provides for the return of fugitive offenders, Turkey appeared to have been rebuffed in its request for Syria to hand over Mr Abdullah Ocalan. He is the founder and leader of the PKK (Workers' Party of Kurdistan), the Kurdish terrorist movement which has been responsible for 454 deaths in south eastern Turkey since August 1984.

The protocol says Turkey and Syria will exchange information on security matters and that each will ban activities against the other actively with the Turks.

Turkey believes that the guerrilla attacks in its south eastern provinces are organised by Kurdish exiles in Damascus and that the killings will come to an end if Syria, like Iraq, co-operates actively with the Turks against the PKK.

However it was being hinted yesterday that Mr Ocalan may no longer be in Syria. There was no indication of where else he might have gone, though Lebanon would be an obvious possibility. The PKK is believed to have a training camp for guerrillas in the Bekaa Valley.

Turkey has evidently also given the Syrians some assurances about the use it intends to make of water from the Euphrates when the lake behind Ataturk High Dam starts to fill up next year.

Mr Ozal said that Turkey would use 500m cubic metres of water a year for irrigation in Diyarbakir province until an agreement is reached with Syria and Iraq about the use of water from the river. Turkey is also to supply electricity from the border town of Nusaybin to Ramallah in Syria.

There is still some scepticism in Ankara about whether Syria (a long-standing regional enemy of Turkey's until about two years ago) will keep its word, the visit seems to have ended on a warm note.

The Syrian Prime Minister said that a new page had been opened in relations between the two countries and that Syria would not permit any activities which would cause unrest inside Turkey.

### Japan pledge on exports to East bloc

By Lionel Barber in Washington

JAPAN has promised the US to strengthen its system for keeping defence sensitive technology away from the Soviet bloc in the wake of the Toshiba Machine Company controversy.

Mr Hajime Tamura, the Japanese Trade Minister, made the pledge to Mr Malcolm Baldrige, US Commerce Secretary, on Thursday, saying he would spend more money and hire more people to make the curbs effective.

US officials said yesterday the Reagan Administration opposed pending legislation in Congress which would ban Toshiba Machine Company products for five years. Mr Tamura had sought support for fighting the legislation at the meeting.

Toshiba Machine illegally sold sophisticated military equipment that helped the Soviet Union build scores of submarines which allowed the boats to run more quietly.

The Pentagon has described the sale as a disastrous breach of the rules formalised in the Co-ordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls.

Japan has agreed to pay more money to CoCom, increase criminal penalties for evading the controls, and to add more inspection officials. The Tokyo Government has also agreed to investigate the Toshiba sale fully with the eventual possibility of a criminal prosecution.

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### Steel trade curbs

President Reagan announced yesterday he would extend the US programme of curbs on imported specialty steel until September 30 1988, to give American companies added time to modernise and improve productivity, Reuter reports from Washington.

Ten bombs in Lima

Ten bombs exploded in the Peruvian capital yesterday, including one near the presidential palace, wounding five people, police said. Reuter reports from Lima.

Anthony Robinson looks at a spate of mysterious killings of opponents of apartheid

### Pretoria accused of secret war against ANC

WHEN President P. W. Botha prolonged the South African state of emergency on June 11 he announced in what was a declaration of war on the banned African National Congress which is waging an armed struggle against the white-dominated government.

"We will not talk to these people. We will fight them for the simple reason that they are part and parcel of the terrorist curse besetting the world," he said.

ranking ANC officials and a Mozambican woman were assassinated in Swaziland when a white man shot up the taxi in which they were travelling. This week the ANC national executive said it regretted to announce the deaths of Mr Cassius Make and Mr Paul Dikaledi and said

"we were assassinated by South African agents in Swaziland on July 9 just after their arrival from Maputo."

Mr Make was the youngest member of the ANC executive and according to South African security sources, he was also a member of the ANC's military wing Umkhonto we Sizwe (Spear of the Nation).

He worked closely with Mr Joe Modise, the Umkhonto commander based in Lusaka, they added.

Mr Dikaledi was described by the ANC as "a dedicated young activist" who joined the ANC after the 1976 Soweto uprising.

The third victim, Ms Eliza Tsimini, was a Mozambican citizen whose passport was stamped with what Swazi

Swazi killing are the most recent of a series of incidents, kidnappings and assassinations and cross-border raids into neighbouring states such as Botswana and Lesotho and in countries further afield such as Zambia and even Britain in which more than 300 ANC cadres are believed to have lost their lives, according to a recent estimate by Mr Mike Hough, a security analyst at Pretoria University.

On Wednesday another suspected ANC guerrilla was shot dead by Ciskeian police in the township of Mdantsane on the border with Swaziland. The Swazi killed two Ciskeian policemen before being shot dead. A cache of arms and ammunition was found in the house, police said.

Meanwhile, judgement was passed earlier this week in the Boweswoman capital of Gaborone in the trial of Mr Steve Burnett, a former British Special Air Services (SAS) soldier. Mr Burnett is accused of attempting to murder Mr Ronald Watson, a well-known former

This has not stopped Pretoria from describing the ANC as a communist-inspired terrorist organisation. It is now being accused of having gone one step further and ordered a clandestine operation aimed at wiping out the ANC's military structures and cadre, wherever they may be.

At the much publicised meeting between a group of Afrikaners and ANC officials in Dakar last weekend the ANC refused to consider giving up its commitment to the violent overthrow of the Pretoria regime. The organisation has thus far largely avoided soft civilian targets and indiscriminate acts of terror against the civilian population.

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rural reserved. Rail and air transport are state-owned.

Putco operates about 3,000 buses carrying about 25m passengers each year. It had a turnover of R28m in the financial year to June 30 1986 but suffered an after-tax loss of R18.5m even though fares are heavily subsidised.

Black transport operators are generally confined to running mini-buses or taxis serving the country's black townships and

them symbols of apartheid. Some observers believed that the attacks, which have destroyed 65 buses in the past two years, would end if the company was black-owned.

• Cinema International, the Dutch cinema group, has sold its South African Metro cinema chain to New Century for an undisclosed amount. Earlier this year New Century bought the South African interests of Cannon, the US film distributor.

Sandinista army base attacked by Contra rebels

CONTRA rebels attacked the northern town of San Jose de Bocay with rockets and mortars, killing 19 militiamen and six civilians, the Nicaraguan Defence Ministry said yesterday. AP reports from Managua.

Mr Bosco Matamoros, a Washington-based Contra, said that several hundred rebels took part in Thursday's pre-dawn attack. He said San Jose de Bocay was an important base for the Sandinista army.

• Maj Rosa Pasos, chief spokeswoman of the Nicaraguan Defence Ministry said Sandinista troops pursued the rebel force and killed 12 of the US-backed insurgents several hours after the attack.

A statement issued by Contra offices in Miami and Washington said the rebel force overran the town, 140 miles northeast of Managua. The statement said the rebels blew up Sandinista army barracks, a military airfield and the nearby San Jacinto farming co-operative, which it described as "armed."

The Contra statement said there were "many casualties" among Sandinista troops but provided no figures. It did not mention rebel losses.

The Defence Ministry said no damage was reported to military installations. It said most of the fighting occurred over 1,000 yards outside the town, but gave few details.

San Jose de Bocay is the site of an important military base from where Sandinista irregular warfare battalions set off in Soviet-supplied helicopters in pursuit of contra units in mountainous Jinotega province.

Reporters who visited a settlement eight miles south of San Jose de Bocay on Tuesday heard sporadic artillery fire as Sandinista troops duelled with rebel units in the region.

The rebel attack coincided with preparations for a July 19 commemoration of the eighth anniversary of the Sandinista uprising which toppled the US-supported dictator, Mr Anastasio Somoza, in 1979.

Chineses may have been offended by the portraits' inclusion, the US Government has been grossly offended by their exclusion.

"The United States will not accept censorship of its exhibition and this does not accord with the freedom of exhibition provided in bilateral agreements," a spokesman for the embassy in Peking said yesterday.

The Chinese attitude is surprising, bearing in mind that a campaign against "bourgeois liberalism" or things Western has abated in recent weeks. However, it does reflect the consistent inconsistency of the Chinese Ministry in filtering foreign art.

While controversial Chinese-British photographs of the revolutionaries were recently on display in the Peking gallery in which the US portraits are to hang, the cultural commissars have clamped down on works such as "Lady Chatterley's Lover." One provincial official, in addressing a

conference on "bourgeois liberalism," reportedly warned against allowing the publication of a book that he thought was called "Lady Chatterley's Lover" because it would harm Sino-British relations.

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### Peking baulks at the unacceptable face of the West

BY ROBERT THOMSON IN PEKING</

## OVERSEAS NEWS

**China admits reforms are squeezing real incomes**

By Robert Thomson in Peking

**THE REAL income of one in five urban Chinese is falling because of the introduction of economic reforms, and about 5 per cent of the urban population of 280m have "real difficulties," a senior official revealed yesterday.**

In an unusually frank assessment of reform's impact, Zhang Zhongli, spokesman of the State Statistical Bureau, said that the prices of vegetables, poultry, pork and fish have risen significantly this year, although the official inflation rate is still said to be only 6 per cent.

State workers, including teachers and civil servants, who are on fixed incomes, have been hit hardest by the price rises while farmers and private business people have done best.

Industrial growth was 15 per cent in the first half, about 5 per cent above plan. This is putting added pressure on already strained supply lines, though a Vice Premier, Yao Yiliang, said yesterday that the Government was pleased with the "stable" economic development so far this year.

Domestic demand continues to be strong, with 17.5 per cent increases in retail sales in the first half compared to the same period last year. However, state revenue fell 1.7 per cent, and capital construction remained unacceptably high.

Yao pointed to the decrease in the trade deficit—\$2bn in the first half compared with \$11.5bn for the whole of last year—as a sign that the economy had improved, but he condemned the decrease in state revenue and continuing increase in spending.

## Philippines bid to woo foreign investment

BY RICHARD GOURLAY IN MANILA

PRESIDENT Corazon Aquino yesterday approved an investment incentives code which officials hope will match the packages offered by other Asian countries, particularly Thailand, to attract foreign investors.

The Omnibus Investment Code which took more than nine months to draft pulls together existing incentives while increasing the scope and applicability of some others. Businessmen reacted more warmly to the new code than had initially been expected, with detailed comment on its provisions.

Before signing the measures, Mrs Aquino acknowledged the need for a way of labour unrest. "With political stability and now this code, most of the elements of a supportive climate for investment are in place," she said. "We need only to enhance industrial peace."

Earlier this month 12 business associations, including all the main local and foreign chambers of commerce, sent a sharply worded letter to Mrs Aquino warning that labour unrest could derail economic recovery and that existing labour laws were not being implemented.

The code includes 46 year tax holdings for new companies depending on whether they are in "planned," "agribusiness," manufacturing (as opposed to simple assembly), technology transfer, industrial or the provision of non-conventional fuel. New pioneer companies exporting 70 per cent of their output will also be eligible for up to 100 per cent additional tax deduction on labour costs incurred in creating jobs.

The Government's Board of Investments is still left with arbitrary powers to limit investments in areas should it decide production for the domestic market and the potential export market has reached "desirable" levels. The "measured capacity" concept has been sharply criticised by business and from some quarters in Government as being protectionist and likely to encourage monopoly power.

The Korean company, surprised by the Government's move, denied the charges and accused GM and Ford of harassment and protection. A spokesman in Toronto said: "Rather than compete with us in the market place, they are using the courts."

Hyundai sold nearly 80,000 cars in Canada in 1985 but its sales this year will be below 60,000.

Chris Sherwell on an Australian party battle

## Howard wins Liberal 'losers' contest'

IN ANOTHER classic episode of Australian political melodrama, Honest John Howard yesterday retained the leadership of the opposition Liberal party by defeating the man he replaced in 1985, the "Colt from Kooyong," Mr Andrew Peacock.

Rarely have Australians been treated to such an extraordinary battle, described by one commentator as "a uniquely depressing contest between two losers." Most are relieved that, for now at any rate, it is over. But many wonder whether it marks an advance.

Mr Howard, still fresh from his electoral defeat by Mr Bob Hawke's Labor party last weekend, was jubilant at his decisive 41-23 victory, as were his supporters within the parliamentary Liberal party.

Mr Peacock, who lost to Mr Hawke at the previous election in 1984, promptly joined 12 other contenders for the deputy leadership and won. "I had the numbers right," he joked afterwards, "but it was the wrong group."

The odd and ironic effect of all this is to re-establish the same leadership, albeit in reverse order, which led the Liberals after the 1984 election.

There is something of a precedent for such an outcome. Back in 1971, Mr John Gorton lost the Liberal leadership and was similarly made deputy leader by the party. But it is plainly something which Labor will be eager to exploit and which can only pose problems for supporters within both party and electorate. If this team is cemented, they will ask, were the costly earlier divisions necessary? If not, where are we now?

As a comfort, it has indeed been remarkable. Mr Howard, 48 next week and a family man, is a former solicitor from a relatively humble background in the suburbs of Sydney. First elected to Parliament in 1974, he became Treasurer under Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser from 1977 until his fall in 1983. Conversations on the way mean he's become the "driest" leader the Liberals have ever had.

Mr Peacock is also 48, also a former solicitor, just as self-



Mr Howard (right) decisively defeated Mr Peacock for the party leadership. But where does that leave the party?

assured but a completely different kettle of fish. A Melbourne patrician, he won Kooyong, formerly Sir Robert Menzies's seat, in 1986.

Twice married, his reputation springs as much from his good looks and charm as from the various ministerial posts he has held, including Foreign Minister. Labor thought he was worth an extra 2 per cent to the Liberal vote if he was to lead the party.

His greatest mistake was to cede the party leadership to Mr Howard in 1985 after the latter won a contest for the deputy's position. Asked at the time about the prime leadership, Mr Peacock replied unforgottably: "I'm not sure I ever wanted it."

He and his supporters known as the "Wets" have since destabilised Mr Howard as leader, a campaign which culminated in Mr Peacock's sacking from the shadow cabinet in April for disloyalty after an embarrassing car-telephone conversation was taped.

Mr Howard still believes it was Sir John Bjelke-Petersen, the maverick Queensland premier, who wrecked the coalition and cost it the election. Sir John, meanwhile, would like to dislodge Mr Ian Sinclair, the federal leader of the Nationals—a battle still to come.

Within the Liberals, attention

## Sabena in Stolport airline deal

By Michael Donn, Aerospace Correspondent

EUROCITY EXPRESS, part of the British Midland group, which is to start short-haul flights to Continental cities from the London City Stolport on October 1, has signed a co-operation agreement with Sabena, the Belgian airline.

It provides for the two airlines to collaborate on routes between the Stolport and Brussels, one of the cities Eurocity will serve. Others include Amsterdam and Paris.

Mr Stephen Gold, aged 31, an accountant, and Mr Bob Schifreen, 23, a freelance journalist, were fined £600 and £750 respectively after a test case at Southwark Crown Court of offences alleged under the 1981 Forgery and Counterfeiting Act. Mr Schifreen was said to have gained access to the Duke of Edinburgh's computer files and to have left messages. But Lord Lane, the Lord

## Radio on verge of big expansion, says Hurd

By Raymond Snoddy

RADIO IS at the threshold of significant expansion and a new golden age for the medium is possible, Mr Douglas Hurd Home Secretary, said yesterday. "New broadcasting spectrum (range of frequencies) is coming, and brings with it an historic opportunity which we ought not to miss. Our aim is to provide the right framework and the right climate for enterprise and diversity to flourish," Mr Hurd said.

He was speaking to the Radio Academy Festival in Bristol after the submission of responses to the Government's green paper on the future of radio.

Mr Hurd made clear that the Government was determined to seize the opportunity for large expansion of commercial radio—perhaps as many as three new national commercial channels and several hundred local and community stations.

"I find it hard to see that new national services should be ruled out, simply to protect ILR, when the green paper proposed that ILR itself should be given its head under a much lighter system of regulation," Mr Hurd said.

He ruled out "a free-for-all such as occurred in some countries" but said radio should be given its head.

"The BBC will continue to provide dynamic public service broadcasting, and ILR will have the chance to develop and spread its wings," Mr Hurd added.

Measures to create a new structure for radio will be contained in a comprehensive broadcasting bill expected to come to Parliament in autumn 1988.

● The Newspaper Society, which represents the regional and local press, has urged the Government to end outdated broadcasting restrictions and allow full and fair media competition in the future expansion of radio.

In its response to the radio green paper, the society calls for an end to what it sees as unfair restrictions that allow radio stations to publish newspapers but prevent newspapers from owning radio stations.

Ralph Atkins examines repercussions of the Knightsbridge robbery

## Raid questions safe deposit security

MONEY CAN buy riches but, as the raid on The Knightsbridge Safe Deposit Centre, London proved last weekend, it cannot yet buy peace of mind.

The ransacking of 124 safe boxes at the centre by three armed raiders has sent shock waves through the safe deposit industry, which has grown rapidly in the past five years.

It also raises the question of how owners of valuable jewellery or documents can find a safe store when there are no restrictions on setting up safe deposits and no institution to enforce standards.

The raid at the Knightsbridge centre on Sunday afternoon combined with violence.

Two of the men dressed in dark suits and posed as prospective clients, who got access to the high-security vaults where the company has a total of 5,000 boxes. The third, disguised as a security guard, turned away customers from the door.

The police estimate that the haul was at least £1m but when all insurance claims have been submitted it is likely to be much more.

It may prove to be Britain's biggest robbery, beating the theft of £26m in gold bullion stolen from a Brinks-Mat warehouse near Heathrow Airport, London, in 1982.

The centre, which opened in 1984, is consulting police about improvements in its systems and procedures, although it says its technology is sufficiently advanced.

"It was just unfortunate that they picked on us. It was just our bad luck," said Miss Justine added.

Their customers pay anything

from £25 to more than £1,000

to hire a box for a year, according to its size.

By extending opening hours and competitive prices they have cashed in on a market tradit-



A Knightsbridge safe-box holder being interviewed

tionally served by clearing banks.

Mr Leslie Hawkes is director of the three-year-old Belgrave Safe Deposits Company which has 2,300 boxes priced between £99 and £900 a year.

"The Knightsbridge raid was a nasty setback for all of us but it is not going to stop the industry growing," he said.

There is no licensing system for operators of safe deposit boxes. The Bank of England says the number of boxes fall within its central banking beat.

The Home Office believes self-regulation will ensure adequate safeguards.

Some insurance companies set standards—but there is no monitoring of companies to check they are enforced.

The only defence the customer has is the contract he signs. Typically, it includes insurance for up to £25,000.

That, as many of the customers at the Knightsbridge centre have found, is no compensation, even if supplemented with another policy, when items of rare or sentimental value are stolen.

Mr Hawkes says customers should use vaults like his which are recommended by insurance companies. Not so, says Mr David Evans, general manager of the commercial department at the 101-year-old Chancery Lane Safe Deposit & Offices Company.

There is no doubt about it that if you go for a more established firm you will know something about its background," he said.

The British Security Industry Association describes itself as the self-regulatory trade association for the security industry. However, that, it says, does not include private vaults.

"These safe deposit boxes are not part of the British security industry at all," said Mr John Wheeler, director-general of the association and MP for Westminster North.

He says they offer a service based simply on a contractual relationship. It is up to individuals to check what they pay for.

"What is wrong with people taking responsibility for themselves?" he asked.

## Appeal Court clears 'hackers' of forgery

FINANCIAL TIMES REPORTER

TWO COMPUTER "hackers" who broke into British Telecom's Prestel computer information system in the course of a foray in the Court of Appeal in London yesterday.

Lord Lane commented: "Their conduct amounted to dishonestly gaining access to the relevant Prestel data bank by a trick. That is not a criminal offence. If it is thought desirable to make it so, that is a matter for the legislature rather than the courts."

Mr Gold, who was convicted of four offences on April 24 last year and Mr Schifreen of five offences, had their conviction quashed and fines set aside. Orders that each pay £1,000 prosecution costs were also set aside.

Defence requests for the costs incurred by the two men in the Magistrates Court, Crown Court and appeal to be borne by British Telecom were adjourned to a further hearing next week.

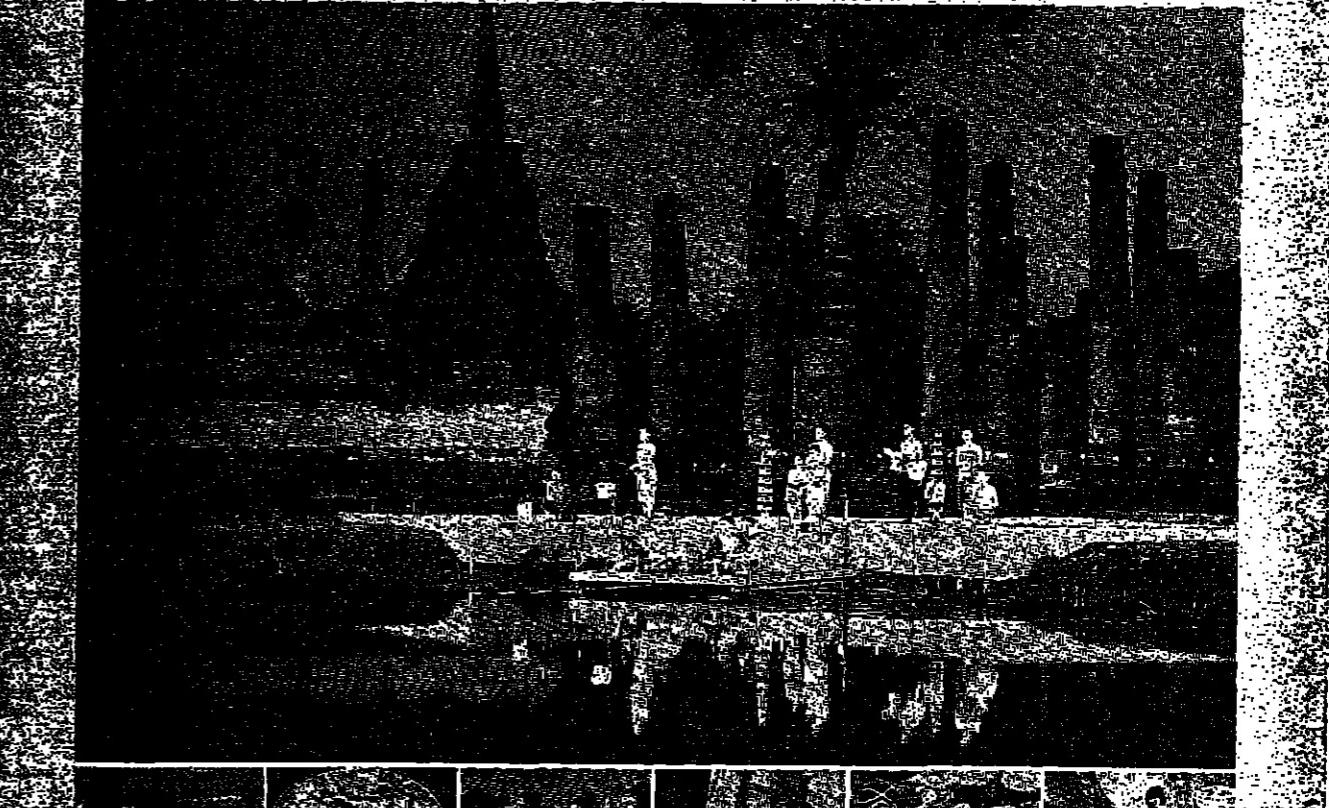
Lord Lane said it was an unusual form of forgery, if it was forgery at all. The objective of the pair was not to gain, but to demonstrate their skill as "hackers."

Although they no doubt appreciated they were in a "grey area" of the law, there was no evidence that they suspected they might be contravening the 1981 act.

Lord Lane said neither the act nor the Law Commission's report on forgery and counterfeiting agency sought to deal with information that was held for a moment while automatic checking took place and was then expunged.

"That process is not one to which the words 'recorded or stored' can properly be applied, suggesting as they do a degree of continuance," he said.

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## UK NEWS

### Owen conciliatory over Alliance merger dispute

BY JOHN HUNT, PARLIAMENTARY CORRESPONDENT

DR DAVID OWEN, leader of the Social Democratic Party, last night made a conciliatory gesture to his opponents in the party who want a merger with the Liberals.

He promised that if those in favour of merger were to win the ballot, he and his supporters would not attempt to block negotiations for a merger. If some SDP members joined the Liberals, he would welcome that readjustment and continue to work with them as friends and colleagues.

He emphasised that he and his supporters would continue to work closely with the Liberals if there were no merger between the two parties.

His statement was seen as an attempt to reassure those Social Democrats who fear that if the parties do not merge, the alternative will be complete separation.

"There is no way we are going to bust or smash the existing political party system of Social Democrats and Liberals up and down the country," he said. "It is nonsense to pretend has brought us both success in



Owen: world not block merger talks if vote lost

many parts of the country."

Social Democrats who joined the Liberals would still be listened to with respect. They would "still be working with us in the future."

"People will and should

remain good friends, even if it is all or nothing."

"We have absolutely no intention whatever of breaking up a political partnership that they take a diametrically opposed view about what is best for our party and for the future shape of British politics."

If the majority of the SDP voted against merger, it would be clear that there would have to be a different relationship with the Liberals.

However, if those who favoured a merger won, he hoped they would not attempt to "bust or separate" constructive working relationships between the two parties. Nor should they pursue merger by the back door, by destroying the identity of the SDP through measures for joint selection of candidates.

Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, has made clear that as far as he is concerned merger is the only way forward and if it is rejected, the Alliance cannot continue in its present form.

### Insider share dealer fined £10,000

MR RONALD JENKINS, a 54-year-old former private secretary to Lord Clegg, chairman of the British and Commonwealth Shipping group, was yesterday fined £10,000 after admitting using his position to carry out two insider trading share deals worth thousands of pounds.

Mr Jenkins, formerly of Hainault Road, Chigwell, Essex, pleaded guilty at the Old Bailey to two charges brought under the 1985 Companies Securities (Insider Trading) Act. He was also ordered to pay prosecution costs of £2,000.

Sir James Hiskin QC, Recorder of London, said Jenkins had never before been in any sort of trouble and it would be appropriate to sentence him to prison as he was in his 50s and had very little chance of obtaining a similar job.

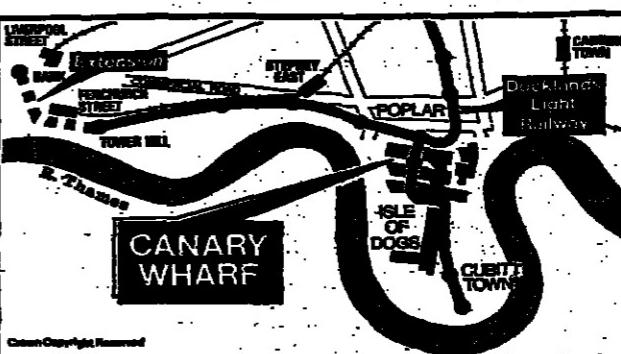
The stakes are

### Paul Cheeseright explains why control of Docklands project changed Time runs out at Canary Wharf

TIME RAN OUT for G. Ware Travelstead. The American who pieced together the Canary Wharf project, the biggest planned commercial property development in Europe, could not command the resources to bring the scheme to completion.

These dependent on him lost patience. Once faith in his ability to take the project from the planning to the execution phase began to slip, the gates opened for Olympia and York, which yesterday took over the scheme on roughly the same terms it had offered in February.

The stakes are high. Total cost of the project on derelict land in London's Docklands, east of the City, is about £20m. The first phase would cost about



Courtesy of Canary Wharf

be corporate headquarters not backroom facilities.

Whether the office space is pre-let or not makes no difference. The project goes ahead, Mr Reichmann made clear. "We are completely on our own strength," he added, in reference to the financing.

The difficulty for Mr Travelstead was that he did not have such strength. He found himself caught in a vicious circle.

The Canary Wharf Development Company, of which he was chairman, did not want to sign the master building agreement with the London Docklands Development Corporation without the security of pre-lets to tenants other than the original partners of the Canary Wharf consortium—Credit Suisse First Boston, Morgan Stanley International, First Boston International and the Travelstead Group.

However, tenants would not be forthcoming unless they saw that the basic infrastructure was in place, he said. The project was under way. That would be a sign of serious intent that the project would happen.

The work could not start, however, until consortium members had agreed among themselves on how to pay for it. That was not to be, said Mr Reichmann.

From the end of last year Mr Travelstead was always on the verge of signing the master building agreement, but fees remained firmly in pockets.

During the past two months, the LDCC became progressively more edgy about the lack of

action. Action on Canary Wharf was essential for the corporation, which is tasked with the revitalisation of the whole district.

The project is central to the redevelopment of the Isle of Dogs. The fact that it had been planned acted as a stimulus for further commercial development on the Canary Wharf site remained empty, a hole in the middle of the Dogs doughnut.

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The project is central to the redevelopment of the Isle of Dogs

action, especially with contractors waiting on the signing of the agreement to start work on the extension to the Docklands Light Railway, the essential communications link to the City.

That diminishing patience was conveyed to Mr Travelstead, adding to the pressure he was under from the bankers. One lot he might have contained — two became impossible. His role had been played.

There was also pressure from another quarter, the London Docklands Development Corpor-

American Express to Battersea Park, Olympia & York brought their existing headquarters buildings. The company would be prepared to do the same in London.

It is taking on all the commitments for Canary Wharf on the basis of two assumptions.

The first is that London has room for another big office centre as well as the City and the West End. The second is that leading corporations will find it more economic to group all their operations in one building on Canary Wharf than to have them scattered over the more expensive areas.

### Scouts assembly 'irrelevant', Howe says

BY JAMES BUXTON, SCOTTISH CORRESPONDENT

A SCOTTISH ASSEMBLY with tax-raising powers was "utterly irrelevant to Scotland's needs," Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, said yesterday.

In a defence of the Government's policies towards Scotland, he said it was vital for the country to be fully represented and to have influence at Westminster, which was where, "like it or not," the decisions that affected Scotland were really taken.

Even some Conservatives, he said, as well as opposition parties and much of the Scottish press, "seemed beguiled by the nostrum of an assembly" which

wanted it when it was not to a referendum in 1979.

The Scottish CBI, he noted, continued to oppose the idea on the grounds that it would drive out investment.

"We all like to feel that we control our own destiny. But there is a sharp distinction between the realities and the trappings of power in the modern, interdependent world," he said.

Sir Geoffrey, who was speaking to Conservatives at Drymen in Stirlingshire, said that Scottish Tories were right to keep their nerve in the wake of the

general election in which they lost 11 of their 21 parliamentary seats.

"But we obviously have to sell our programme better," he said. "We must show that we have heard what people are saying in their votes. But we must not cancel or change the direction of our policies."

The Government had to recognise that many Scots felt they had not yet shared fully in the economic recovery.

Earlier, Mr Baker told conference delegates that a new body, to be known as the National Curriculum Council, is to be set up to develop the National Curriculum.

In response to the Education Secretary's speech, Mr Fred Jarvis, National Union of

Teachers general secretary, said: "As usual Mr Baker showed no recognition of the crucial importance of resources and he made no commitment to restore teachers' negotiating rights. Instead he smoothly sought the co-operation of the local education authorities and their support for policies that will result in their demise or, at best, make them marginal."

Mr Baker's policies and actions were divisive. They would bring back selected and fee-paying. They were bogus and would not lead to greater parental choice.

"Once again, we have experienced a Baker smoke-screen. He has ignored a desperate need for more resources," said Mr Jarvis.

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## UK NEWS

## James Buxton on how EC cash is aiding the Western Isles Practical boost for Crofters' morale

"WHAT WE'RE doing here is the biggest thing to hit the Western Isles for 50 years," says Mr Ronnie Cramond, deputy chairman of the Highlands and Islands Development Board, as our light aircraft comes in to land on Benbecula.

For the past five years the Western Isles have been the target of an integrated development programme, a European Community-assisted scheme to improve the economy of this 130-mile long chain of Hebridean Islands off the west coast of Scotland.

The development programme has been aimed at the rural population, crofters living in scattered townships earning their living by a mixture of farming, fishing and other activities including in the northern islands of Lewis and Harris, weaving Harris Tweed on pedal-driven looms. Only 100 of the 6,000 crofters in the Western Isles (of whom the total population is only 33,000) are full-time farmers.

Instead of concentrating on prestige projects imposed from above, the integrated development programme involved working with farmers and fishermen to improve their activities and putting in small pieces of infrastructure, such as piers and community workshops. In all, some £28m has been invested over the past five years, of which about £7m has come from the EC, £4m from the Government — some through the HIBD — and an impressive £1m from the crofters themselves.

On top of that, £30m has been spent on infrastructure improvements such as road building, drainage and public transport with enhanced aid from the EC amounting to £12m.

"When I started arguing for this scheme in Brussels at the beginning of the decade people told me it wouldn't work," says Mr Cramond, a warm but very determined 60-year-old Scot. "They said the islanders were too lazy and had got enough grants and subsidies already."

Now, however, the consensus in Scotland is that the development programme, which ended in May, has been a success, though a last-ditch campaign to persuade the EC farm ministers to extend it for a further two years has failed. Mr Sandy Matheson, the party convenor of the Western Isles Council, says: "We know intuitively it has been a success. It has been a great psychological boost."

In agriculture, that boost to morale may be as important as the economic gains, for both



The programme has increased facilities for fishermen

the scale of farming in the Western Isles and the increases in livestock the programme has brought are puny compared with other parts of Britain.

It offered farmers aid in two ways: for bigger crofts there were comprehensive programmes that had to be agreed on by the crofters and programme administrators. Other crofters could choose from long "à la carte" menu of assistance grants for such items as new fencing and the re-seeding of pastures.

One crofter who agreed to a comprehensive programme is Archie MacDonald, who combines working as a joiner with running five crofts on Benbecula, totalling about 100 acres. This makes him one of the larger farmers in the Western Isles.

Altogether, between £45,000 and £50,000 has been spent on his land. Of that, £33,000 went on a large shed to keep livestock in winter and provide protection against the gales for most of the year. Mr MacDonald did the work on the shed himself.

He used to have only three or four cows; now he has 12 and plans to go up to 20. He also has 75 breeding ewes and in-

tends to increase the flock to 100.

A detailed study of the effects of the development programme by Professor George Houston of Glasgow University, found that on the 200 crofts that carried out comprehensive improvement plans the number of sheep rose by 20 per cent. On those not participating, it fell by 2 per cent.

There was a dramatic fivefold increase in the sale of lambs to the mainland, reaching 20,000 in 1986. A long decline in the number of cattle was arrested.

Livestock sales have been made easier by the building under the programme, of a brand-new new livestock market at Lochmaddy in North Uist, complete with pens and an auction-ring. "Before this was built, the crofter sold his sheep on the roadside near his croft and the dealers who come across from Aberdeen were able to get away with rock-bottom prices," Mr Cramond says.

Prof Houston says that if the development programme were repeated, the emphasis should be on giving aid under the comprehensive programme rather than the "à la carte" grant which he implies, is too piecemeal to be really worthwhile.

On the rocky eastern side of North Uist, where farming is impossible, the development programme has built an impressive new concrete pier on a sea inlet at Kallin. As a result, the number of shellfish and lobster boats operating from the area has roughly doubled to about 14 or 15 and the pier risks being congested.

From the pier, Mr WIlliame Stewart, a crofter, takes his boat to look at his salmon farm. It consists of six floating cages moored together in a sheltered inlet. In them, salmon are reared to maturity, fed on food pellets sprinkled on the water by automatic feeding machines.

The investment here was about £100,000. The development programme provided grants at a rate of 70 per cent on the first £50,000, the proportion tapering thereafter. Annual turnover is about £140,000.

Salmon farming is probably the fastest growing industry in the Highlands. New salmon farms have sprung up all along the west coast. Output is expected to double in the next year or two to about 25,000 tonnes and already four-fifths of the salmon eaten in Britain are farmed rather than being caught wild.

The programme provided particularly attractive grants for farms established in the Western Isles.

The equivalent of about 180 full-time jobs have been created. Although about half that production comes from four large farms (owned by three companies) two thirds of the jobs are provided by smaller, locally owned farms.

The Highlands and Islands Development Board and the islanders wanted to see EC Farm Ministers extend the development programme for a further two years. Some of the farmers involved felt the changes had been too teleological to set up new assurances and that there would be an annual opposition to a two-year review of salaries and conditions.

It is understood that the company subsequently agreed to a package that, in its wording, was much closer to that drafted two weeks ago when employees at the Bedford plant voted by 789 to 605 in favour of the joint venture.

The agreement, in what is now widely accepted as a radical package.

## GM wins union approval for Isuzu deal

By Jimmy Burns, Labour Staff

GENERAL MOTORS said yesterday it had secured union approval for its joint venture with Isuzu of Japan at the troubled Bedford van plant near Luton.

Officials of all five unions involved have yet to formally sign an agreement. But the company is satisfied that it has removed any remaining hurdles in the way of signature by July 25, the date when the Luton plant begins production for the summer period.

Union officials said yesterday they had withdrawn a threat to force a fresh ballot of employees on the joint venture after the company had agreed to modify its latest list of demands.

On Tuesday the company tabled proposals which the unions claimed excluded earlier assurances that local union officials could be involved in the proposed new works council and that there would be an annual opposition to a two-year review of salaries and conditions.

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The agreement, in what is now widely accepted as a radical package.

ABOUT 250,000 National Health Service ancillary workers are expected to accept a "final" pay offer of 5 per cent, raising their basic weekly rate to between £31.13 and £106.75.

Union negotiators are not recommending the offer, however, because they say it fails to recognise that the ancillaries — mainly hospital porters, cleaners and catering staff — have slipped badly behind comparable workers in pay terms.

The offer, improved from a previous one of 4 per cent, would give an extra £4 a week to non-supervisory staff and £5 to supervisors. It is tied to a proposal for further talks on grade restructuring.

## Striking Yorks miners threatened with dismissal

BY CHARLES LEADBEATER, LABOUR STAFF

BRITISH COAL yesterday warned 14,000 South Yorkshire miners involved in a strike over the corporation's revised disciplinary code that their action could lead to dismissal.

Mr Jack Taylor, leader of the Yorkshire National Union of Mineworkers, said British Coal had further inflamed miners' anger over the disciplinary code, and escalated the dispute, by "chucking more wood on the fire."

It is almost certain that the 15 pits in the North Yorkshire coalfield will join the increasingly bitter dispute on Monday following branch meetings over the weekend.

The warning was issued in a letter from Mr Tony Lawson, the manager of Fritchley Colliery, which is at the centre of the dispute.

Fritchley's 900 miners started a strike on Monday, and subsequently picketed 15 other pits

rather than inflaming. We need to get round the table. There are serious flaws in the code which could be amended, or withdrawn after discussion.

The North Yorkshire miners are set to join the dispute even though the corporation has not yet decided whether it will reinstate Mr Ted Scott, a popular union official, who has been dismissed from Stillingfleet, a colliery in the area.

Mr Scott's appeal against his dismissal, which was related to a dispute over weekend work, was heard yesterday morning. Confirmation of Mr Scott's dismissal would provoke widespread anger among North Yorkshire miners.

However, Mr Kevan Hunt, British Coal's director of industrial relations, indicated that it would take a firm line in the case. The NUM said Mr Scott was dismissed for going about his normal union business.

## TUC privatisation policy to be opposed

BY DAVID BRINDLE, LABOUR CORRESPONDENT

THE TUC is to be pressed to review its demand for privatised industries to be brought back into public control, taking account of the general election result last month.

Some union leaders feel that the Labour Party's policy on restoring "social ownership" of British Telecom and British Gas was a liability at the election and cost the party support among worker shareholders and the wider public.

In a resolution already formally submitted and published, Nalgo, the white-collar

union, calls on the TUC to reaffirm its policy that British Gas and "other privatised utilities" should be brought back into public ownership.

However, the Nalgo motion goes on to say that this "requires a commitment to work for better and more responsive services and for less monolithic, distant and conservative structures which, fuelled by chronic under-investment and Government-imposed cuts, have undermined public support for public services."

## TGWU calls for boycott of hotel chain

BY JOHN GAPPER, LABOUR STAFF

THE Transport and General Workers' Union yesterday called for a general union boycott of the Moat House hotel chain over a long-running recognition dispute prompted by the sacking of 52 staff.

The workers were dismissed after going on strike at Queen's Moat House hotel in Liverpool during a dispute over working conditions.

Mr Alan Reed, the company's solicitor, said that the hotel group had been "boxed into a corner" by the union's insistence that it should be recognised, and he believed would staff.

make a resolution of the dispute difficult.

He denied that the company was opposed to unions in principle, but said that the TGWU did not represent the majority of the 120 workers at the Liverpool hotel.

Mr John Farrell, the TGWU's district secretary, said that the union was pressing for reinstatement of the workers, improvements to working conditions, and recognition in areas where it represented the majority of staff.

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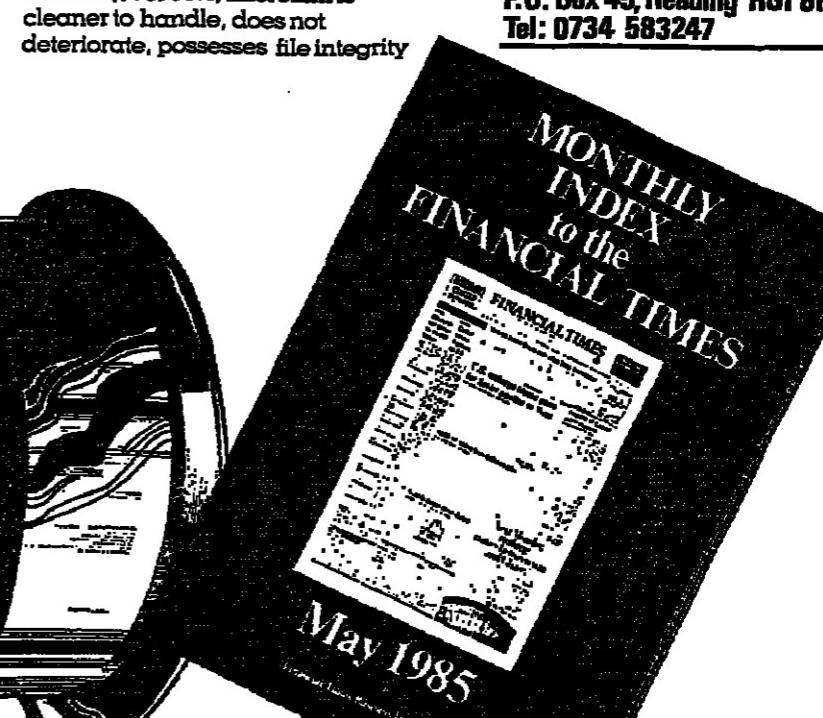
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## Amoco North Sea find might hold 70m barrels

BY LUCY KELLAWAY

AMOCO, the US oil company, yesterday announced an oil discovery in the North Sea, the latest of a series of recent finds in the region.

The company said it had completed a well on block 210 in the central North Sea and oil had flowed at up to 4,500 barrels a day. It said it was encouraged by the results and that further drilling would be carried out to

## Societies lend £3.2bn for mortgages in June

BY HUGO DIXON

BUILDING SOCIETY mortgage lending totalled £5bn last month, for the first time this year, as the summer home-buying season got under way, according to figures published yesterday by the Building Societies Association.

Gross mortgage lending was £3.2bn, up from £2.8bn in May but less than the £3.4bn advanced in the corresponding period last year. After the mortgage repayments are deducted, net mortgage lending was £1.8bn.

Societies performed better than expected in the retail savings market, attracting a net inflow of £554m. This is down to the average amount attracted in the previous months of this year but the full effect of the second call for money from British Gas shareholders, which was spread over May and June, had been expected to lead to a lower figure.

The main explanation for the relatively good showing is the reduction by most societies not

to cut the rates paid to savers in a period when base rates were falling and National Savings, a main competitor for retail funds, reduced its rates.

As a result, there was only a small funding gap, most of which was filled by the industry running down its liquid assets. The liquidity ratio, which measures the ratio of liquid assets to total assets, fell from 16.9 per cent to 16.6 per cent on a seasonally adjusted basis.

Little resort was made to the wholesale financial markets, which sometimes have used extensively in recent months to finance buoyant mortgage demand. There was, in fact, a net outflow of £22m to the wholesale markets last month, the first time the figure has been negative since February last year.

Halifax Building Society has bought Bedfords Theobalds, an East Midlands estate agency, for an undisclosed sum. The 28 offices will continue to trade under their present name.

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Saturday July 18 1987

## The hazardous joys of growth

THERE IS no great mystery about the sustained growth in employment in the UK. Everything else is growing too. The production industries are now raising their output at an annual rate of more than 4 per cent, with manufacturing growth at 5.7 per cent. Against these figures the rise in employment, at just over one percentage point, is remarkably modest. The British productivity "miracle" (if slowly catching up with continental Europe counts as a miracle) is clearly continuing.

What is more surprising, on the face of it, is that both the Chancellor and the financial markets continue to inspect these encouraging numbers with the closest suspicion. The Chancellor complains that wages are rising excessively in the City, although unit costs are rising at less than 1 per cent a year; it is not too worried about this.

Financial analysts are, on the other hand, worried about the rising cost of other inputs, and the possibility that industry is nearing the limits of plant capacity. There are warnings of inflation to come. The Chancellor is inclined to brush these particular worries aside.

The Chancellor's strictures on pay are very familiar by now, but are they justified? Mr Lawson's statement that wages are rising at "three times the rate required to maintain real incomes" sounds striking, but does not actually mean anything. The rise in earnings is three times as big as the rise in the tax-prices index, which does not tell us whether it is sustainable or not.

### Catching up

The rise in unit costs does suggest that wage increases are being a little overdone. However, there is nothing to suggest that current earnings increases would be worrying if the rise in productivity could be sustained at its recent remarkable rate.

At bottom, then, the Chancellor's worry is the same as the City's: both believe that the underlying growth rate is well below recent levels. We are essentially catching up with the growth lost during 1985 and the first half of 1986, when output and productivity increases were low and unit costs were rising very fast. Recent growth and unit cost figures are too good to last.

The history of the whole recovery of the 1980s presents a remarkably consistent picture of earnings rising about twice as fast as productivity. This would suggest a steady loss of competitiveness; but here, as the Chancellor points out, the facts are much more encouraging. Britain's share of world

export markets stopped falling some time ago, and may now even be rising.

This contrast may explain why the country seems able to live quite prosperously with "excessive" wage increases. The bulk of our export trade is done by quite a small number of predominantly multinational companies, and many of these companies are achieving far above average increases in output. Car production, for example, has risen no less than 20 per cent in the past year.

These dynamic companies can afford to set a pace in wages which is not matched by productivity in the rest of the economy. For that reason inflation is indeed likely to persist and may even rise a little; but exports may remain fully competitive, or even increasingly so, as output grows.

This picture would change very suddenly, though, if industry were soon to run into a buffer of plant capacity. This is the fear not only of some City analysts, but of the Nedo forecasting and the Labour critics of government policy.

The evidence suggests that there are some potential capacity problems, but of a very special kind.

### Reserve waiting

While half the CBI membership still reports that it is working well below capacity, some shortages are beginning to appear in chemicals, cement and the like. All these products are made in continuous-process plants, whose output potential is determined by engineering.

These plants tend to be very large, for reasons of technical economy, so that building a new one would add quite a noticeable percentage to total capacity. Investment decisions on this scale require a confidence about future demand which may be difficult to sustain in a world of volatile exchange rates, and are sensitive to the cost of capital.

In the rest of industry, though, there is a very large reserve of potential capacity which can be tapped simply by working plant for longer hours. Only one worker in eight at the moment is required to work a shift—even a double a day shift. Night shifts are a tiny reality.

The turnaround in employment growth may be telling us that while much investment is still designed to raise technical efficiency, growth is beginning to rely more on raising the productivity of all this new plant by working it longer. Capacity constraints could thus mean more employment growth, not less.

**WE'RE NOT** talking wham-bam b.o. We're not even talking socks. Thirty three thousand circulation is not the kind of box-office gross you're going to put up an SRO sign outside the drive-in.

So what is Reed International, Brit publisher, paying Syd Silverman, megabucks for Variety, the showbiz trade paper with the corniest slang and most unreadable front page of any product from Gotham to the Coast? And why is fiftyish, elegant Ivy League Syd selling the paper, his grandfather founded, a paper older than pix?

You can see Syd Silverman through the window of Variety's poky offices on West 46th Street, straight off Gotham's legit strip.

Squashed in with him is son Mark, one of three children who are exes. In back, reporters back in pre-war days. The place looks like a set for The Front Page. It looks like nothing's changed since Grandpa Sime Silverman founded a vaudeville paper in 1905 and Grandma Silverman drew the famous masthead with the big, big V on the back of a restaurant napkin.

For most of showbiz, nothing has changed. Weekly Variety is still the Wednesday morning bible. It has a bit of charter and some rude reviews that nobody takes much notice of. But most people are made aware through the morass of business information about pix, tv, fees, legit, interties, homies. If you are a theatre owner and you want to know if The Untouchables will make your fortune, Variety tells you: the film did a bonfire book in the States. You want to know what pictures are being made and where, for how much, who is auditioning, who's in Gotham and who's in LA, you'll find it in Variety—eventually. "We're not going to win a prize for graphics," said Syd Silverman in a set this week. "There's just lots of numbers and info. That's why the people read us."

Even Cahners, a subsidiary of the Reed International group, doesn't want to change Variety. The word is Cahners paid Syd Silverman the best part of \$50m for weekly Variety, published in New York

City, and the daily version that is established in Hollywood with an overlapping circulation of 22,000. But it has left Syd Silverman and all three of the younger Silvermans in place with five-year contracts. "They ain't broke, so why fix it?" says Mark Cahner.

These times are changing in Hollywood and Syd Silverman is changing with them. With the sale of Variety, Hollywood's pioneer is well and truly laid to rest.

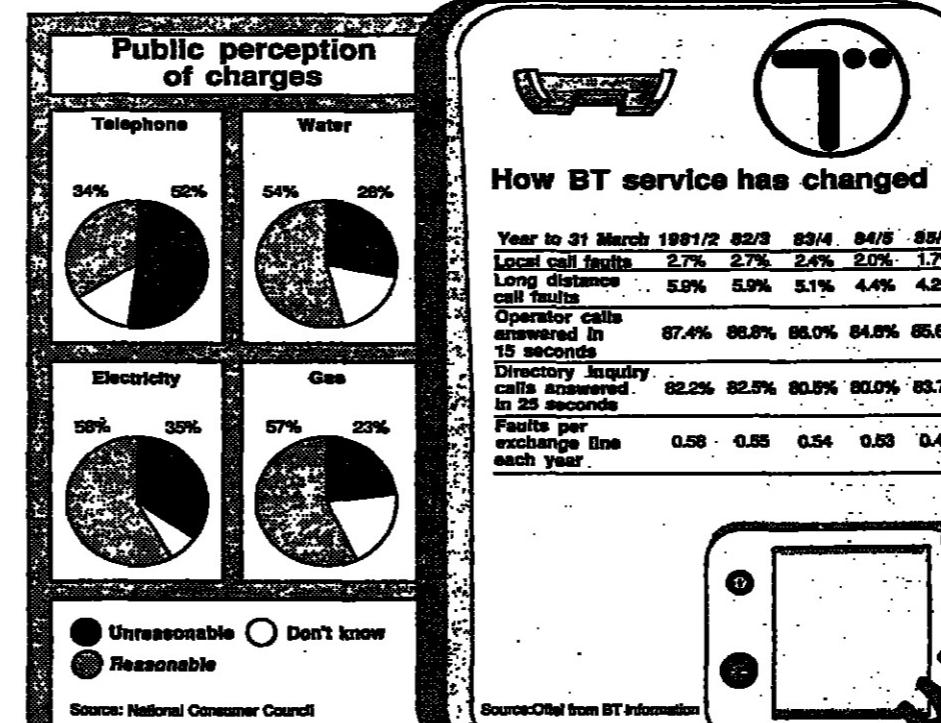
An engagingly cool man, it is hard to associate him with the world of blockbuster bombs, or imagine him fired up about anything, unless it is the vintage Allard sports cars he races at weekends.

Decidedly old fashioned, he

never questioned going into of an independent spirit—he

British Telecom is the subject of fierce consumer criticism. David Thomas reports

Financial Times Saturday July 18 1987



How BT service has changed				
Year to 31 March 1981/2 82/3 83/4 84/5 85/6				
Local call faults	2.7%	2.7%	2.4%	2.0%
Long distance	5.5%	5.5%	5.1%	4.4%
Call backs	1.7%	1.7%	1.7%	1.7%
Operator calls answered in 15 seconds	87.4%	86.6%	86.0%	85.6%
Directory Inquiry calls answered	82.2%	82.5%	83.0%	83.7%
Faults per exchange line each year	0.58	0.55	0.54	0.53

Source: Oftel from BT Information

will have climbed out of its present trough by April next year—the earliest that the Government could sell its remaining shareholding.

However, the company does not expect to meet its broader target—to offer customers a service second to none in the world—until 1990. Once then will the modernisation of its network be substantially complete.

By then, however, the key decisions on BT's regulatory framework will probably have been taken. The Government is due to decide in 1989 whether to allow businesses to act almost as sub-contractors, and to allow BT and its rivals to sell voice traffic. It will also decide whether to break up the monopoly of BT and Mercury Communications in 1990.

Professor Carsberg, speaking to MPs this month, hinted that he expected the results of these to go ahead, but was more circumspect about whether the duopoly would be broken.

By then, steam might have built up behind the demand for BT's grip on the UK telecommunications market to be weakened further. The trick will be to avoid making Mercury, BT's fledgling rival, the main casualty of extra competition.

The competition faced by BT remains extremely patchy. The company has reacted most aggressively in those areas where it has faced the greatest challenge—the supply of equipment, one of the earliest areas liberalised; and the growth in demand following Big Bang, one of Mercury's target areas.

Mercury has so far put most of its energies into chasing customers in the City and among large companies. But it has also launched services for residential and small business customers—although BT is bound to remain dominant at this end of the market for the foreseeable future.

In those areas where further competition is likely, effective regulation of BT will be needed for some time. Call-boxes are an example.

Oftel believes that BT has been trying to improve its call-boxes: modernising them and, contrary to worries expressed when it was privatised, increasing the number.

But Professor Carsberg also says: "I still have to satisfy myself that repairs are made as quickly as possible and that steps are taken to identify promptly call-boxes that are out of use."

Oftel is considering removing BT's monopoly over privately rented call-boxes—those found in hotels and restaurants. But even if this move only takes away it would probably be years before BT's overwhelming position was eroded.

Moreover, Oftel is hesitant about reducing BT's monopoly over public telephone boxes because of the feasibility of keeping loss-making boxes where there is a social need.

The BT row could force ministers to make competition more of an issue in future sell-offs. Indeed Government supporters are worried that a continuing bad press could reflect badly on the rest of the privatisation programme. Paul Johnson writes in this week's Spectator that BT is on its way to becoming "the most loathed institution in the country..."

The danger for the Government, and indeed for all of us who value freedom and hate the all-enveloping state, is that BT will bring the entire concept of privatisation into disrepute."

## Public pressures, private grief

It could give privatisation a bad name and affect the way other utilities, particularly the electricity industry are sold off.

More immediately, but perhaps less likely, it might affect the timing of the Government's sale of its remaining 49.8 per cent stake in BT.

But it is fair to say that BT's overall quality of service leaves much to be desired?

Jain Vallance, chief executive of BT, says he was dismayed—but not particularly surprised—by the intensity of the criticism during the past few weeks. He recognises that the roots of the complaints go deeper than irritation about crossed lines.

The way in which the dissatisfaction has been expressed is not unusual, among some BT insiders, that the company's response to the new wave of competition has been plodding. In some areas, particularly the newer value-added business services, the morass of BT bureaucracy makes it difficult to get a quick response to new proposals.

Yet the feeling persists, not least among some BT insiders, that the company's response to the new wave of competition has been plodding. In some areas, particularly the newer value-added business services, the morass of BT bureaucracy makes it difficult to get a quick response to new proposals.

He defines that culture as "a fear of making a decision in case you are wrong. In most commercial organisations, the first thing people do is give you their card. In BT, people prefer to remain anonymous."

On its main network, BT is having to jettison decades of certainty that it knew best.

"The company is run by engineers who think everyone else is a bloody amateur. They know that the percentage fault rates are not that bad, so what is everyone complaining about?" says another ex-insider.

With these attitudes ingrained in many BT workers, an explosion of anger about the

company's quality of service was probably inevitable. Mr Vallance argues that three factors have made 1987 a particularly difficult year.

First, there was the strike by BT staff early in the year. BT had to cope with a backlog of new orders and repairs. "The legacy was perhaps rather greater than we thought at the time," Mr Vallance admits.

Second, faults disrupted some new local digital exchanges

—although only a few tens of thousands, installed, according to BT. The faults were due to software problems at its supplier and inadequate preparation by BT for the task of speeding up introduction of new exchanges.

"I left because we had been embraced by the warm arm of BT corporate culture," explains one executive who recently gave up the struggle.

He defines that culture as "a fear of making a decision in case you are wrong. In most commercial organisations, the first thing people do is give you their card. In BT, people prefer to remain anonymous."

Third, there were surges of demand, particularly in the City, which BT says neither it nor its customers foresaw. "We thought that demand from Big Bang might flatten out this year, but it's taken off further," says Mr Vallance. He is still demanding 2,500 new private circuits a week.

Some relief came this week from Oftel, which released figures (shown in table) suggesting a slow improvement in BT's performance since 1981. But Oftel's Professor Carsberg damned the company with faint praise: "Our best assessment is that quality has improved a little though perhaps not as

much as one would have wished."

Oftel went on to pick out two areas for improvement: the provision of new lines and repairing of faults within a particular period.

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## UK COMPANY NEWS

Nick Bunker and Hugo Dixon on the TSB's bold bid

### Hogg Robinson's cloudy horizon

THROUGH ALL the ifs and buts of yesterday's hostile bid by TSB Group for Hogg Robinson — only the third such move on a Lloyd's insurance broker since 1978 — three questions stand out.

Would Hogg fight? It will — but it has only nine days to do so, or to find a white knight, before the special shareholders' meeting on July 27 to vote on Hogg's own alternative scheme to demerge into two distinct quoted companies.

Second — if TSB were successful — can it avoid extinguishing the entrepreneurial zeal with which Hogg's travel and estate agency side has been built since 1983? It was already indicating yesterday that it and Dewey Warren will each bring "appropriate incentive packages" for Hogg Robinson executives.

Third — and most intriguing, perhaps, to observers in the London insurance market and to Morgan Grenfell — is the issue of Mr Robert Holmes a Court's further ambitions via Dewey Warren, of which he holds 42 per cent. A very small, US-oriented reinsurance broker which had unproductive earnings talk in 1986 with C. E. Heath, Dewey Warren will thrust itself up into the second division of Lloyd's brokers if it captures Hogg's mainly retail insurance broking arm.

At the eye of the storm is Mr Brian Perry, of Hogg Robinson, to whom the planned split into two companies was especially dear. He was designated to lead the new, demerged Hogg Robinson travel, transport and financial services company.

One explicit aim of the merger was to give him his entrepreneurial freedom, to be helped by a £3m share issue.

Mr Perry has run Hogg Robinson Travel since 1972. A marketing man — he prides himself, for instance, on the design of Hogg's travel agency branches — he has been privately brought to the notion of a swift emergence of his company into a more ponderous group like TSB.

Mr Perry ran one-half of the



Robert Holmes a Court (left) and Albert Wheway, chairman of Hogg Robinson

strategy with which Hogg has transformed its fortunes since 1983, with earnings per share up 20 per cent on average each year. Mr Perry was part of a four-man management team with Mr Albert Wheway, chairman, Mr Christopher Price, head of the Lloyd's broking side, and Mr Andrew Alers-Hay, finance director.

Mr Perry's first thrust was to expand the travel agency side — where Hogg, with 267 outlets, is the same league as Thomas Cook. Hogg's second thrust began last September. Since then, Hogg has created by acquisition a chain of 77 estate agencies in south-eastern England and the west Midlands. Ironically, the fruits of his work are what has enticed the TSB.

TSB wants to use the travel agents to sell financial services, in particular travel insurance. It also hopes there will be some synergy with Swan National, its car rental operation which already runs package holidays.

Similar cross-selling opportunities are seen for Hogg's estate agencies. TSB already has almost 20 offices in Scotland and wants to build up a larger network through which to sell home loans and other products. Hogg's small pensions and

financial planning side also fits in with group strategy. However, the transport forwarding business, best known for handling the Government's baggage, does not have an obvious place.

TSB intends to persuade Hogg's current management to stay on to manage the business, which would be kept together as a separate division within the TSB Group. The plan then is to pump in more cash to expand it.

In insurance broking — the largest for Dewey Warren — Hogg was conscious of the now conventional view that escalating costs and competitive pressures in international broking make size essential.

After aborting merger talks with C. E. Heath, the Lloyd's broker, in May 1985, Hogg had seen growth by acquisition in the US as one way forward.

Supplementary, a merger of Hogg Robinson and Gardner Mountain, Hogg's broking side,

with Dewey Warren has the same industrial logic as Hogg's own active merger talks last month with Fenchurch, the Lloyd's broking subsidiary of Guinness Peat. That appealed to Hogg because Fenchurch is strong in the high margin business of London market re-insurance, while Hogg Robinson

### Firth maintains growth in second half

CONTINUED GROWTH in the second half has left G. M. Firth (Holdings) with pre-tax profits 25 per cent ahead at £3.1m for the year to March 31 against £2.4m previously.

Turnover for the group, which is a steel stockist and merchant and property developer, rose by 23 per cent to £81.6m (£50.05m). Second-half sales and profits were £33.65m and £1.66m respectively.

The directors are recommending an increased final dividend of 1p (0.55p), raising the total by 50 per cent to 1.5p (1p). Earnings per 10p share moved ahead from 4.36p to 5.68p.

Mr J. H. Wasserman, the chairman, said the company had large cash and liquid resources for expansion and he

was confident of another substantial increase in profitability and a major growth in earnings in the current year.

Profits on steel stockholding and machinery were somewhat lower than last year, he said. It was the first full trading year of the Charles Wade division and that was not satisfactory, he added. Changes had been made at senior management level in January and since there had been a marked improvement in profitability.

Porter Chadburn, an associate company which manufactures food and drink and general engineering equipment, achieved pre-tax profits of £352,000 (£506,000) in the year to March 31, on turnover ahead

from £19.4m to £21.51m.

A lower final dividend of 1p (1.5p) is being recommended which maintains the total at 2p. Earnings fell to 1.52p.

Earlier this month a new management team was appointed after buying, together with Charterhouse Bank, a 25 per cent stake from Firth thus reducing Firth's holding to 39.69 per cent.

#### Comment

G. M. Firth's figures give little away and a nonplussed market reacted indifferently. However, Ian Wasserman will apparently only begin to reveal the jewels beneath this steel stockholder's floorboards when shareholders

receive the circular detailing the background to the disposal of 25 per cent of Porter Chadburn (until July the holding was 65 per cent).

Analysts believe that a careful reading of the pro-forma balance sheet included in the circular will reveal cash plus investments in quoted stocks worth enough to triple the net asset value of Firth — up to around £18m. Add to this the prospect of a two-thirds rise in pre-tax profits to £5m and an almost doubling of earnings per share, then the current rating of the stock (13 times forecast earnings at £18m) seems out of kilter for a basic industrial company that has more than recovered and is committed to not issuing any more shares.

### BAA ballot may be avoided

By Richard Tomkins

THE Government may yet avoid a ballot among applicants for shares in BAA, formerly the British Airports Authority, by giving small applicants 100 shares each and larger investors none at all.

The counting of the applications was still going on yesterday and the allocation will not be announced until later this morning. However, the number of applications in the fixed price offer seems likely to total about 2,000. With 200 shares available to the general public, there may be sufficient to give applicants 100 each.

They grey (unofficial) market price being quoted by licensed dealer Cleveland Securities yesterday was 145p bid, 147p offered for the 100p partly-paid shares.

### COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

**THORPAC Group:** Turnover £4.56m (4.65m) for year ended March 31, 1987. Pre-tax £412,000 (£321,000) before tax but after exceptional debt £40,000 (nil). Earnings 3.2p (2.1p) and final dividend 0.833p to make 1.17p (0.55p) adjusting for scrip and sub-division. Reduction in turnover result of sharply lower exports to Australia because of currency weakness. Considerable optimism for current year.

**GREENFRIAR INVESTMENT:** Increased earnings from 0.63p to 1.03p in half year ended June 30, 1987. Pre-tax revenue £194,000 (£112,000). Net asset value 57.1p (51.0p) per share at 30.3p (36.1p) after full conversion of warrant. Net value per warrant 389.3p (255.1p).

**INDEPENDENT Investment (Investment trust):** Net asset value per 25p ordinary share £15.5p (£10.2p) at year end on June 30, 1987. Total dividend 2.5p (1.75p).

**APPLIED Holographics (USM-quoted manufacturer of holographic products):** No dividend

### Big Marler stake moves in £21m cash deal

By Terry Povey

Mr Terry Ramsden's unquoted investment company Glen International has sold its entire 23.8 per cent holding in Marler Estates to Mr David Thompson, one of the most successful persons in Britain and a highly junior chairman of Hillsdown Holdings.

Also yesterday Mr Ramsden notified Bestwood that he had sold his 14.8 per cent personal holding in the financial services and property company.

The 23.8 Marler shares changed hands at £9.50 and Glen has realised a profit of around £3m on its £21m investment in the controversial property plan to develop Chelsea, Fulham and Queens Park Rangers football grounds for luxury apartments.

The Bestwood transaction may not have been so profitable. The stake was originally purchased by Glen at around £2.2m two years ago, but was sold on to Mr Ramsden personally for an unknown amount last year. Bestwood's shares are currently trading at £12p, rising 1.7p yesterday on news of the disposal.

It agreed to sell its Morgan stake to KIO, the investment arm of the Kuwait Government and one of the City's most secretive institutions, agreed to sell Dewey its 4.5 per cent stake in Morgan for £33.5m. The ownership of these shares had previously been obscured because they were registered under the name of a controversial Bank of England nominee account, not KIO.

At around the same time as it agreed to sell its Morgan stake to KIO, the investment arm of the Kuwait Government and one of the City's most secretive institutions, agreed to sell Dewey its 4.5 per cent stake in Morgan for £33.5m. The ownership of these shares had previously been obscured because they were registered under the name of a controversial Bank of England nominee account, not KIO.

But a source close to KIO said it would almost certainly swing its 9 per cent stake behind TSB unless there was a better offer. The source also said that he thought that KIO had agreed to sell its stake in Morgan Grenfell in return for shares in Dewey rather than cash.

What is unclear, though, is whether Dewey will try to increase its stake in Morgan any further. If it does, Morgan will almost certainly resist it. In the past, it has made clear its determination to remain independent.

### Revitalised Blacks swoops in £60m double purchase

By NIKKI TAIT

Blacks Leisure, the camping and leisurewear group saved from receivership by a film consortium package last October, yesterday continued its remarkable revival by announcing an agreed £45m cash-and-shares offer for Miss Sam, the women's and children's fashion company, and a £15.2m cash-and-shares deal for private tennis company S. Eker.

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Miss Sam was founded by Stephen Morris in 1976, and has been audited by Terry Morley since then. It came to the stockmarket eight months ago via a 105p-a-share placing. Profits in the year to end September were £2.4m on sales of £11.8m; in the first half this year, there was a 16 per cent rise to £12.7m. Net assets are about £4m and Miss Sam has some small trading relationships with both businesses.

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## APPOINTMENTS

## Chief executive for ARC

**Mr Keith Orrell-Jones** has become chief executive of ARC. He succeeds Mr Charles Spencer, who continues as chairman. Mr Orrell-Jones joined the company in 1972. His career has included appointments as deputy regional director of ARC South Eastern, group marketing director and managing director of ARC Southern. Since 1982 he has been president and chief executive of ARC America Corporation, based in Newport Beach, California.

The MITEL CORPORATION has appointed as president and chief executive officer Mr John Jarvis, who joins from PA, where he was group chief executive of PA Computers and Telecommunications. He is succeeded at PA by Mr Michael Rappolt who has been a main board member of PA Computers and Telecommunications since 1981.

Following the formation of CGA FINANCIAL SERVICES (which includes CGA Financial Brokers) together with Fraser Tudor, Barrett Strud and IPAM Investments, the company, part of Fredericks Place Holdings, has appointed Mr Ronald Denham (chief executive of The Country Gentlemen's Association), Mr Stewart Goldsmith (chief executive of Fredericks Place Holdings) as deputy chairman; Mr Stewart

Jones, managing director; Mr Keith Owen, deputy managing director; and Mr. Victor Harvey, Mr. Marcus Experton, Mr. Colin Studd, Mr. Robin Hunter and Mr. Timothy de Salle as directors.

Mr. Keith Orrell-Jones has been appointed vice-chairman. Successing him as managing director is Mr. Ken Coombes, formerly technical director. Mr. Geoff Smith, formerly company accountant, has been appointed to Asfordale.

COUNTY NATWEST, investment banking subsidiary of National Westminster Bank, has appointed Mr. Pierre Esteve as a director. He will advise on the expansion of the investment banking activities of County Weston in France. He is an inspector general of the Finance Inspection Corps and, until 1983, was president of Union des Assurances de Paris, the largest insurance company in France.

PERTH & WEST has appointed two directors. Mr. Steve Day, with company since 1974, becomes customer services director. Mr. Ian Young joins the board as non-executive director with responsibility for business strategy planning and support to the managing director. Mr. Young has been in the computer industry for over 20 years, the majority as senior manager for ICL.

Following acquisition of the ANALYTICAL DEVELOPMENT CO. LTD., the following board changes have been made: Mr. Ernest Meut, formerly managing director of ADC, has

BUNZL has appointed Mr. Jon Edis-Slater as company secretary. He joined as company solicitor in 1985. Mr. David Latimer, formerly company secretary, remains as group services director.

The following board appointments have been made in three HAWKER SIDDELEY subsidiary companies: Mrs. Pauline Sanderson to Hawker Pacific Pty as products support director; Mr. Christopher Campbell to Elwood Sensors as finance director; Mr. Trevor Passmore to Mr. Trevor Passmore (Stamford) as production director.

Audit director  
Midland Bank

Mr. David G. McLachlan has been appointed group audit director at MIDLAND BANK. He was a risk management director in the UK banking sector and succeeds Mr. Michael Goling who is taking up a senior appointment with Midland in New York.

The CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTANTS has appointed Vice Admiral Sir George Wallage to succeed Mr. T. E. Redhead as secretary on his retirement in November.

MR. RONALD YEASLEY, chairman of BIS Applied Systems, has been reappointed as a non-executive member of the LONDON ELECTRICITY BOARD for a further three years.

Mr. Andrew Parry, director of development, responsible for the identification and acquisition of new properties in the UK and overseas. He succeeds Mr. Chris Cole who has left the group to set up his own company. Mr. Parry joins from the Martin Retail Group where he was director of new concept development.

THISTLE HOTELS has appointed Mr. Andrew Parry as director of development, responsible for the identification and acquisition of new properties in the UK and overseas. He succeeds Mr. Chris Cole who has left the group to set up his own company. Mr. Parry joins from the Martin Retail Group where he was director of new concept development.

Mr. Andrew W. M. Walker, managing director of MFP Melbourne, has been appointed responsible for the Akron Road facility of Lawson Mardon Packaging Toronto.

Mr. Peter Schmidt-Hansen, puch business manager, Mardon Plastic Packaging, will be appointed managing director of MFP Melbourne. Both are LAWSON MARDON companies.

METATESTES UK portfolio managers to the MEPC Group, West End theatre group that is diversifying into multi-screen cinemas. Potter is global corporate banking director of Midland Bank and a director of Samuel Montagu.

PORTFOLIO ADMINISTRATION has appointed Mr. Terry Forward as a director.

MR. JOHN PATES, managing director of Kenneth Wilson Group, and Mr. Bob Stokell, managing director of SECOO, have become directors of BUNGE & CO. \*

Mr. Brian Bassett, a regional director with Barratt Developments, has been appointed managing director of GREEN LANE DEVELOPMENTS, residential development subsidiary of Alfred Walker.

MR. PETER J. SANGER and Mr. Robert G. GIBB have been appointed executive directors of REED CORRUGATED CASES. Mr. Sanger, formerly marketing director, is responsible for the company's Edinburgh, Coatbridge, Hartpool, Histon, Aythorpe and Langer plants plus the

Groves & Company Limited, Granville & Company Limited, 27 Lower Lane, London EC4R 9AX. Telephone 01-621 1212. Member of FIBRA.

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## GRANVILLE SPONSORED SECURITIES

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	div. (p)	%	P/E
182	133	Ass. Brit. Ind. Ordinary	182	+1.7	7.3	11.8	
175	145	Ass. Brit. Ind. CULS	175	-	10.0	5.7	
38	34	Amrad and Rhodes	38	-	4.2	11.1	5.3
142	97	BBB Design Group (USA)	142	+2.2	2.1	14.4	2.8
317	215	Barton Hill Group	317	-	6.3	1.7	27.1
175	95	Bray Technologies	175	-	6.7	2.7	14.0
228	130	CCL Group Ordinary	228	+1.0	11.5	5.8	5.8
125	98	CCL Group 11pc Conv. Pref.	125	-	15.7	12.5	
151	128	Carbundium 7.5pc Pref.	151	-	5.4	3.6	13.1
94	91	Carbundium 7.5pc Pref.	94	-	10.7	11.5	11.8
105	87	George Blair	105	-	3.7	3.4	2.8
143	119	Iols Group	143	-	7.2	1.9	
71	69	Jackson Group	71	+2	3.4	4.8	7.8
440	321	James Burrough	440	+10	18.2	4.1	10.0
47	38	James Burrough Spec. Pref.	57	-	12.9	13.3	13.9
780	510	Matthews NV (Austria)	780	+10	1.4	10.2	
555	351	Record Ridgway Ordinary	555	-	14.1	17.2	
85	80	Record Ridgway 10pc Pref.	85	-	—	3.6	
120	122	Rober Jenkins	120	-	—	3.6	
120	122	Sorcerone	120	-	—	3.6	
141	104	Torday and Carlisle	141	-	8.6	3.4	9.4
420	321	Trevian Holdings	420	-	7.9	1.9	8.7
122	73	Unicoll Holdings (SE)	122	+6	2.8	2.3	22.5
188	115	Water Alexander	188	-	5.9	1.3	19.8
186	100	W. S. Yates	186	-	17.4	8.9	19.5
150	96	West Yorks. Ind. Hosp. (USA)	150	+8	6.5	3.7	15.9
* Scrip issue							

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## LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE

## DEALINGS

Details of business done shown below have been taken with consent from less Thursday's Stock Exchange Official List and should not be reproduced without permission.

Unless otherwise indicated prices quoted in the FT Share Information Services are those at which the transaction was done in the 24 hours up to 5 pm on Thursday and settled through the Stock Exchange Telex system, they are not in order of execution but in ascending order which denotes the day's highest and lowest dealing prices.

The information is wider than the latest recorded business in the four previous days is given with the relevant date.

\* Bargains at special prices. # Bargains done on non-member of Exchanges in overseas markets.

## Corporation and County Stocks

No. of bargains included 8

Grosvenor London Council 5% Cum Prt \$100,000 - 2000

Birmingham Corp. 5% 1947 after - 100

3% (100) 133200 after - 225 (104)

3% (100) 1947 after - 227 (144)

Corp. 5% Cum Prt \$100 - 225 (154)

Montgomery Corp. 5% Cum Prt after - 225 (154)

4% Corp. 5% Cum Prt - 234 (104)

Selby Corp. 5% Cum Prt 50000 - 2000

UK Public Boards

No. of bargains included 1

Agricultural Council Corp PLC 9% Deb \$200 - 257 (134)

8% Deb \$100 - 222 (104)

7% Deb \$100 - 220 (104)

5% Deb \$100 - 220 (104)

10% Subord Deb \$100 - 220 (104)

Cyde Port Authority 4% Ind Prt - 220

Port of London Authority 5% Ind Prt - 220

- 220 (144)

Foreign Stocks, Bonds, etc. (coupons payable in London)

No. of bargains included 9

AS Exporters Inc 1000 1980 (Interest Only)

ASDA-MFI Group PLC 9% Deb 2000 -

10% Deb 2000 - 240 (104)

10% Deb 2000 - 24

# WORLD MARKETS

## FT-ACTUARIES WORLD INDICES

Jointly compiled by the Financial Times, Goldman, Sachs & Co., and Wood Mackenzie & Co.  
Ltd., in conjunction with the Institute of Actuaries and the Faculty of Actuaries

### NATIONAL AND REGIONAL MARKETS

	THURSDAY JULY 16 1987				WEDNESDAY JULY 15 1987				DOLLAR INDEX		
	US Dollar Index	Day's Change	Pound Sterling Index	Local Currency Index	Gross Div. Yield	US Dollar Index	Pound Sterling Index	Local Currency Index	1987 High	1987 Low	Year ago (approx)
Australia (94)	147.03	+1.4	133.65	137.52	2.98	144.99	131.72	135.88	147.03	99.92	75.60
Austria (112)	139.7	+0.3	115.10	115.18	1.18	139.7	115.10	115.18	139.7	102.42	75.62
Belgium (120)	126.72	-1.0	115.19	115.22	1.02	126.50	114.01	118.07	126.72	96.19	81.32
Canada (132)	138.45	-0.6	125.85	125.54	2.11	137.68	125.07	131.95	138.45	100.00	96.05
Denmark (39)	114.80	-0.9	104.35	105.87	2.56	115.86	105.26	109.40	124.10	98.18	92.75
France (121)	120.25	-0.7	115.00	115.37	2.07	111.49	109.38	108.22	120.25	98.39	87.08
West Germany (192)	99.22	-0.7	90.19	94.76	2.00	99.26	90.03	90.03	99.22	95.38	87.47
Hong Kong (45)	132.05	+1.4	120.03	120.38	1.30	130.23	119.30	119.57	132.05	95.90	70.56
Ireland (14)	144.04	-0.9	130.94	130.11	3.24	145.41	130.20	130.80	145.41	99.50	92.10
Italy (76)	95.59	+0.9	97.17	95.18	1.81	95.00	95.30	95.93	112.11	93.47	81.04
Japan (50)	140.6	-0.2	115.10	115.18	0.51	140.69	115.25	115.25	140.69	102.28	88.54
Mexico (14)	185.76	-0.4	148.05	148.59	1.01	186.58	148.26	148.26	186.58	98.24	82.05
Netherlands (38)	269.14	+1.2	262.83	263.89	0.69	268.58	259.43	240.89	268.58	99.72	51.83
New Zealand (26)	127.82	+1.0	118.18	120.61	3.68	126.56	119.95	127.82	126.56	99.65	91.15
Norway (24)	107.18	+1.5	97.42	94.10	2.97	105.82	95.68	95.68	107.18	83.93	72.07
Spain (27)	160.40	-0.5	145.98	145.48	1.57	159.47	145.34	145.34	160.40	102.29	74.15
Sweden (33)	126.05	+0.6	120.03	120.30	3.21	124.97	118.95	127.51	124.97	100.00	71.60
United Kingdom (36)	162.87	+0.9	148.04	148.04	2.94	161.45	146.47	146.47	162.87	99.65	88.59
USA (59)	127.57	+0.7	117.07	127.57	2.84	126.73	115.12	127.57	126.73	100.00	98.83
Europe (92)	128.35	+0.4	124.67	124.67	2.71	127.69	118.18	118.39	128.35	99.78	89.28
Pacific Basin (66)	134.06	-0.2	121.86	121.86	0.71	134.91	122.54	125.87	134.91	100.00	87.12
Euro-Pacific (161)	131.81	-0.2	119.83	124.58	1.49	132.15	120.05	123.88	131.81	99.65	88.68
North America (723)	128.16	+0.7	116.50	127.88	2.79	127.32	115.64	127.04	128.16	100.00	88.68
Europe Ex. UK (223)	106.47	-0.1	114.19	102.51	2.50	107.04	97.24	102.28	107.75	98.22	83.67
Pacific Ex. Japan (223)	122.24	+1.3	120.27	120.27	1.14	122.24	117.74	122.24	122.24	97.44	73.94
World Ex. US (326)	132.24	-0.1	120.57	121.13	1.54	122.91	120.74	124.42	122.91	100.00	91.13
World Ex. UK (203)	127.48	+0.0	115.88	123.96	1.92	127.44	117.77	123.61	127.44	100.00	91.13
World Ex. So. Af. (236)	130.34	+0.1	118.48	120.14	2.02	130.18	118.26	123.38	130.20	100.00	91.08
World Ex. Japan (199)	123.23	+0.6	117.47	125.72	2.77	128.48	116.71	124.91	129.23	100.00	94.21
The World Index (2417)	130.63	+0.1	118.74	124.19	2.03	130.46	118.52	124.43	135.15	100.00	91.76

Base values Dec 31, 1986 = 100  
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Latest prices were available for this edition

### EUROPEAN OPTIONS EXCHANGE

Series		Aug '87		Nov '87	
Vol.	Last	Vol.	Last	Stock	
GOLD C	5480	23	3.50	20	15
GOLD C	5200	34	1.50	11	25
GOLD P	5400	5	0.50	10	20.50
SILVER C	3700	70	85	16	175.4
SILVER C	3500	25	42	11	150
SILVER C	3700	25	32	—	—
SILVER C	3700	70	85	16	175.4
SILVER C	3500	25	42	11	150
SILVER C	3700	25	32	—	—
SILVER C	3700	70	85	16	175.4
SILVER C	3500	25	42	11	150
SILVER C	3700	25	32	—	—
SILVER C	3700	70	85	16	175.4
SILVER C	3500	25	42	11	150
SILVER C	3700	25	32	—	—
SILVER C	3700	70	85	16	175.4
SILVER C	3500	25	42	11	150
SILVER C	3700	25	32	—	—
SILVER C	3700	70	85	16	175.4
SILVER C	3500	25	42	11	150
SILVER C	3700	25	32	—	—
SILVER C	3700	70	85	16	175.4
SILVER C	3500	25	42	11	150
SILVER C	3700	25	32	—	—
SILVER C	3700	70	85	16	175.4
SILVER C	3500	25	42	11	150
SILVER C	3700	25	32	—	—
SILVER C	3700	70	85	16	175.4
SILVER C	3500	25	42	11	150
SILVER C	3700	25	32	—	—
SILVER C	3700	70	85	16	175.4
SILVER C	3500	25	42	11	150
SILVER C	3700	25	32	—	—
SILVER C	3700	70	85	16	175.4
SILVER C	3500	25	42	11	150
SILVER C	3700	25	32	—	—
SILVER C	3700	70	85	16	175.4
SILVER C	3500	25	42	11	150
SILVER C	3700	25	32	—	—
SILVER C	3700	70	85	16	175.4</td

# UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

مَنْ أَعْلَمُ بِالْأَصْبَلِ

# UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE





JULY 18

Continued

## LONDON SHARE SERVICE

## INSURANCES—Continued

High	Low	Stock	Price	+ or -	Net	CW/Grd	YTD	P/E
407	Low	Stock	Price	+ or -	Net	CW/Grd	YTD	P/E
412	412	PWS Holdings	412	-21	707.25	2.9	31.153	
420	420	PWMS Group	420	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
421	421	PWMS Holdings	421	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
422	422	PWMS Holdings	422	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
423	423	PWMS Holdings	423	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
424	424	PWMS Holdings	424	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
425	425	PWMS Holdings	425	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
426	426	PWMS Holdings	426	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
427	427	PWMS Holdings	427	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
428	428	PWMS Holdings	428	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
429	429	PWMS Holdings	429	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
430	430	PWMS Holdings	430	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
431	431	PWMS Holdings	431	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
432	432	PWMS Holdings	432	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
433	433	PWMS Holdings	433	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
434	434	PWMS Holdings	434	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
435	435	PWMS Holdings	435	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
436	436	PWMS Holdings	436	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
437	437	PWMS Holdings	437	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
438	438	PWMS Holdings	438	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
439	439	PWMS Holdings	439	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
440	440	PWMS Holdings	440	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
441	441	PWMS Holdings	441	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
442	442	PWMS Holdings	442	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
443	443	PWMS Holdings	443	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
444	444	PWMS Holdings	444	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
445	445	PWMS Holdings	445	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
446	446	PWMS Holdings	446	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
447	447	PWMS Holdings	447	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
448	448	PWMS Holdings	448	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
449	449	PWMS Holdings	449	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
450	450	PWMS Holdings	450	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
451	451	PWMS Holdings	451	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
452	452	PWMS Holdings	452	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
453	453	PWMS Holdings	453	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
454	454	PWMS Holdings	454	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
455	455	PWMS Holdings	455	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
456	456	PWMS Holdings	456	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
457	457	PWMS Holdings	457	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
458	458	PWMS Holdings	458	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
459	459	PWMS Holdings	459	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
460	460	PWMS Holdings	460	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
461	461	PWMS Holdings	461	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
462	462	PWMS Holdings	462	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
463	463	PWMS Holdings	463	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
464	464	PWMS Holdings	464	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
465	465	PWMS Holdings	465	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
466	466	PWMS Holdings	466	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
467	467	PWMS Holdings	467	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
468	468	PWMS Holdings	468	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
469	469	PWMS Holdings	469	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
470	470	PWMS Holdings	470	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
471	471	PWMS Holdings	471	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
472	472	PWMS Holdings	472	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
473	473	PWMS Holdings	473	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
474	474	PWMS Holdings	474	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
475	475	PWMS Holdings	475	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
476	476	PWMS Holdings	476	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
477	477	PWMS Holdings	477	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
478	478	PWMS Holdings	478	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
479	479	PWMS Holdings	479	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
480	480	PWMS Holdings	480	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
481	481	PWMS Holdings	481	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
482	482	PWMS Holdings	482	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
483	483	PWMS Holdings	483	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
484	484	PWMS Holdings	484	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
485	485	PWMS Holdings	485	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
486	486	PWMS Holdings	486	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
487	487	PWMS Holdings	487	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
488	488	PWMS Holdings	488	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
489	489	PWMS Holdings	489	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
490	490	PWMS Holdings	490	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
491	491	PWMS Holdings	491	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
492	492	PWMS Holdings	492	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
493	493	PWMS Holdings	493	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
494	494	PWMS Holdings	494	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
495	495	PWMS Holdings	495	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
496	496	PWMS Holdings	496	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
497	497	PWMS Holdings	497	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
498	498	PWMS Holdings	498	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
499	499	PWMS Holdings	499	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
500	500	PWMS Holdings	500	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
501	501	PWMS Holdings	501	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
502	502	PWMS Holdings	502	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
503	503	PWMS Holdings	503	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
504	504	PWMS Holdings	504	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
505	505	PWMS Holdings	505	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
506	506	PWMS Holdings	506	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
507	507	PWMS Holdings	507	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
508	508	PWMS Holdings	508	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
509	509	PWMS Holdings	509	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
510	510	PWMS Holdings	510	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
511	511	PWMS Holdings	511	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
512	512	PWMS Holdings	512	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
513	513	PWMS Holdings	513	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
514	514	PWMS Holdings	514	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
515	515	PWMS Holdings	515	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
516	516	PWMS Holdings	516	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
517	517	PWMS Holdings	517	-12	162.5	1.2	34	
518	518	PWMS Holdings	518	-12	162.5			



# WEEKEND FT

Saturday July 18 / Sunday July 19 1987

• MARKETS • FINANCE &amp; THE FAMILY • PROPERTY • TRAVEL • MOTORING • DIVERSIONS • HOW TO SPEND IT • BOOKS • ARTS • TV •

## The richest county in China

**David Dodwell on how Hong Kong is pouring investment into the mainland**

**M**R CHAO KWOK, his vast belly swaying under a grubby white vest, was vigorously, and perhaps a little drunkenly, swapping toasts with a tableful of senior party cadres who were visiting Changping for the day from Canton.

Despite his best efforts to put on a workaday-even shoddy-appearance, there could be no disguising the fact that behind wide smiles betraying an impudent glee, the old man's gun lit with glee. Mr Chao was in local terms a man to be reckoned with. In Changping he is a prodigal returned; a patriot who has shown filial piety by returning to his home town.

He has set up three factories there, and has almost finished a three-storey home that would rank as a gentrified mansion wherever he lived in the world. For Mr Chao, who later pottered around his hundreds of expensive potted Bonsai trees as he showed the same speechless officials around his prodigal home, this has been the fulfilment of a dream.

In Hong Kong, the likes of himself are two-a-penny, and he would have to be a billionaire—rather than a mere millionaire—to afford the sort of home he has built for his retirement in Changping. Back in his ancestral town, he is "Mr Big"—and he clearly enjoys it.

Mr Chao is not alone in responding to the ancestral call of Changping. About 130 factories are processing goods for Hong Kong manufacturers, employing 20,000 people in a town that has a population of no more than 52,000. Changping is just one of 32 townships in Dongguan, a municipality of 1.2m people, two hours driving time from Hong Kong on the road to Canton, which occupies an unique place in mainland China's race to modernise its economy.

A combination of factor-closeness to Hong Kong, ancestral ties with about 850,000 overseas Chinese, a richly endowed local economy and a sense of dynamism uncommon in such a bureaucracy-ridden country—has made Dongguan the richest municipality in China. Burgeoning exports to Hong Kong and a proliferation of investments from the British territory have lifted living standards into the stratosphere by comparison with more normal parts of the People's Republic.

And yet Dongguan is by no means the only beneficiary of this intimate relationship with Hong Kong. It is now clear that manufacturers in the British territory would have been unable to maintain price competitiveness in the world's export markets if they had not been able to exploit the cheap labour markets of places like Dongguan.

Mr Chao is one of thousands of Hong Kong Chinese who have in the past five years expanded their successful

Hong Kong-based businesses into China. Indeed, it has become the norm for Hong Kong's textiles, electronics, toy and watch manufacturers to set up all new manufacturing operations in the territory's Chinese hinterland. As job opportunities in the local manufacturing sector have become stagnant, only the same in service industries has kept the territory in full employment.

Mr Gordon Wu, the ebullient head of Hopewell Holdings in Hong Kong, which is involved in a wide range of construction and infrastructure projects in the Pearl River delta, reflects an increasingly widespread conviction when he predicts that Hong Kong will eventually become "the show front," while the Pearl River delta hinterland acts as "the factory."

Hong Kong and Guangdong together will be able to compete with South Korea and Taiwan, and give them a run for their money," predicts Mr Wu.

Hong Kong operations in Dongguan account for about 150,000 workers. Across the entire Pearl River delta it is estimated that there are in total about 10,000 such ventures, with more than a million of Guangdong's 6m population working for Hong Kong companies.

This sees Hong Kong's dependence on this workforce as perhaps most vividly illustrated when it is recalled that the territory's own total workforce is only 2.6m. Small wonder, then, that China has in the past two years become Hong Kong's main trading partner.

Political sensitivities over China's resumption of sovereignty in 1997 mean that many would rather not spell out the extent to which Hong Kong now depends on its Chinese hinterland. In addition, Hong Kong's textile manufacturers, harassed by officials in the US and Europe over quota allocations and country of origin queries, are wary of drawing detailed attention to where their shirts, dresses or fashion pillows are really made.

The modest municipality of Dongguan plays an exceptional but illustrative part in this extraordinary symbiosis between Hong Kong and China. It also provides a vivid example of how intricately linked Hong Kong's future is with that of mainland China—10 years ahead of China's formal resumption of sovereignty.

Mr Allen Lee, a legislative councillor in Hong Kong who has at the same time established a state-of-the-art electronics plant in Dongguan, has no illusions: "If it were not for China, and its open door policy, we in Hong Kong would not be where we are today."

Mr Chao would agree, only adding, perhaps, that if it were not for Hong Kong, China and in particular places like Dongguan, would also not be where it is today.

One of Dongguan's earliest claims to fame was as a firework manufacturer in the 18th century, when sticks of bamboo were stuffed with gunpowder and stuffed into fires at any festive occasion. Technology has moved on from those days, but Dongguan remains arguably the largest pyrotechnic centre in the world.

However, Dongguan's strongest modern-day links with the outside world are as a supplier to Hong Kong. The town's famous "Peacock" brand rice noodles account for about one-fifth of



Paolo di Paolo

the noodles sold in Hong Kong. Up to 30,000 tonnes of fresh vegetables are sold to Hong Kong each year. Dongguan sausages are a delicacy for most Hong Kong people.

The Dongguan area is also famed for its lychee orchards. During the hectic 20-day harvesting season that has just ended, about 2,500 tonnes of these delicate red-shelled fruits were exported to Hong Kong.

Add China's largest banana plantation, great tracts of delta land devoted to sugar cane, and one of the country's largest mandarin orange crops, and you have an area of considerable agricultural importance, supplying canning industries, soft drink factories, and a substantial biscuit-making operation.

Even more critically, Hong Kong relies on Dongguan for its water supplies. About 70 per cent of the territory's fresh water is pumped from the East River—a major tributary of the Pearl River—at the town of Kluato.

So large is the community in Hong Kong of people of Dongguan origin that they are represented not simply by one Dongguan association, but by 17 clan-men's associations linked with particular townships.

Most of the television sets, washing machines, tape recorders and the like that grace most Dongguan homes have been brought in as gifts by relatives making their annual Chinese New Year

pilgrimage to their ancestral town. Just over 100,000 came to visit during this past spring.

Dongguan people in Hong Kong have built hundreds of miles of road in the area, have made bridge building possible, and have endowed dozens of schools, hospitals and libraries. About 40 per cent of the cost of the municipality's new polytechnic, due to be completed next year, will be borne by donations from about 20 Hong Kong compatriots.

But the most powerful consequence of the open door policy has been the awesome scale of inward investment of Hong Kong manufacturers. Apart from the 1,800 processing ventures, Dongguan has attracted 243 equity and co-operative joint ventures, with a committed investment of \$1.8bn.

This underpinned an export performance that compares favourably with many entire provinces in China, rather than municipalities.

This heavyweight economic performance was mirrored, in 1984, in a literal and larger-than-life way when three weightlifters from the township of Shilong, on the banks of the East River in Dongguan, walked away from the Los Angeles Olympics with two gold medals and a silver medal. China's total for the whole games was just four golds, so the fame of Shilong has been trumpeted across the nation. One of the gold medallists, Chen Weiqiang, is the nephew of two brothers who were setting

weightlifting world records in the 1950s. The oldest Chen, Chen Jinkai, is renowned not just in Shilong but nationwide. A great bronze statue of a weightlifter towers over the town square. A special weightlifting school for 62 boys and 10 girls has been set up nearby.

Yip Heung-sun, party deputy secretary in Shilong, pours cold water on the idea that there is something in the water of the East River that breeds its weightlifters: "They are not born. They are the product of hard training," he says. He insists that old Mr Chen has been an inspiration to the township, and one is tempted to feel that some of that inspiration has rubbed off on Dongguan's unusually energetic, un-inhibited administration.

One direct result of its love affair with Hong Kong is a construction boom in the Dongguan area that has converted almost the whole municipality into a building site. Officials say that nine out of every ten farming families now own their homes. Villages that in other parts of China would be peeling wattle and daub structures are choked with three-storey houses topped with extravagantly golden-tiled roofs.

Municipal statistics show that average urban salaries amount to about 50 per cent above the national average. But workers in any of the local toy factories

— and Mattel, Perfecta and Kader all have large factories in the county — are earning sums that may still be about a third of the average wage paid to a Hong Kong factory worker, but are unimaginable fortunes to most mainland Chinese families.

"People used to gossip about ten-thousand yuan households a couple of years ago," says Liu Sui, Dongguan's Vice-Mayor: "Today, no-one would be impressed unless you could say you were a one-hundred-thousand household—and there are plenty of these around."

This affluence raises important issues for foreign investors and the Peking authorities alike. Widening disparities between municipalities in Guangdong and those in China's interior have the potential to cause serious political friction over national economic policies. Investors who set up factories inside China to exploit the country's cheap labour structure are beginning to find that the wage gap between China and other countries in the Pacific region is narrowing. For them, it is a matter of relief that large numbers of migrants are being recruited into Guangdong from as far afield as Anhui, Hunan or Hubei provinces, to meet the rising demand for labour. These fresh labour supplies not only help to relieve the pressures of a tightening labour market, but also bring into the area workers whose wage expectations do not yet match those of local people.

Deborah Wong, who with her American husband employs about 800 people in a toy factory in Chang'an in the extreme south of Dongguan, says about half of her workforce comes from outside Dongguan. Since most of these are girls, who return to their own provinces to get married after a couple of years of remittance, the income back home there has very little inflationary impact on wage levels. They are replaced by girls newly arrived from the interior, who are equally in awe of local salary levels.

It is at first sight puzzling why Hong Kong manufacturers should have descended in such numbers on the city of Dongguan. Many have traced back their original roots, but many more, including Deborah Wong, who came originally from Zhongshan in the Foshan area, or Alice Lee, whose native province is Shandong—have chosen the municipality for more commercial reasons.

They have wanted to make investments close to Hong Kong—to maximise control over their ventures—but have been reluctant to invest in Shenzhen, the special economic zone adjoining Hong Kong, or in Baotou, which contains Shenzhen and is sandwiched between Hong Kong and Dongguan.

Allen Lee had his own reasons for basing his high-technology factory in Dongguan, making copper-clad laminates (from which electronics manufacturers make their printed circuit boards): "There is simply less bureaucracy in Dongguan," he said.

Already it is conceivable that Hong Kong manufacturers could compete without the economies that come from production in China. It is possible, at the same time, that the interdependence with municipalities like Dongguan can eventually be the catalyst for economic takeoff in China's more sheltered interior provinces.

As Gordon Wu commented: "It seems to be a perfect marriage." Perhaps the honeymoon is still too fresh in people's memories for any prediction to be sent to any test. If he is right, then those predicting doom for Hong Kong beyond 1997 can put their feet up and relax. But if he is wrong then there are likely to be some pretty grisly divorce proceedings ahead for Hong Kong's entire manufacturing sector.

### The Long View

## When Polonius's rules don't apply

**The world-wide rise in money supply and stock prices reflects a greater willingness among ordinary citizens to borrow and to lend. Could this mean high values are here to stay?**

asks Anthony Harris



This may seem a dull and technical story so far, though there is some reassurance in understanding these matters; but now we come to the beef, as the lady said.

A growing number of savers clearly regard a high-interest account as altogether too tame for a modern saver. They and their pension funds are buying stocks instead. Up to now this decision has paid off most handsomely, as it was bound to do; for stock markets are places where both wishes and fears tend to be self-fulfilling.

You might imagine that since there is a seller for every buyer, the world as a whole cannot increase the proportion of its wealth represented by stocks, any more than the demand for land can increase the supply (apart from new leases in the first case and Dutch-style reclamation in the other). But the rise in prices works the trick: broad money, old-fashioned saving, has grown fast, but stock values have grown much faster. Prices reflect asset preferences.

Some readers may find that vertigo sets in here. If the great bull market reflects no more than an investment fashion, it could well collapse as soon as skirts come down. This was actually a fashion investment theory in the days of swinging Britain, and a lot of psychological claptrap was written about it.

While there is something in this, the gloom is easily overdone. This rise in saving, the result of tax changes and aggressive marketing by the finance industry, looks fairly stable. The level of stock prices, in the UK at least, does not look too irrational a judgement as the fundamentals: prices have only recently matched the

underlying asset values at replacement cost, and profits have been rising broadly in step with the market.

There are certainly some dangers. Bull markets never end smoothly, because prices reflect the hope of ever-rising prices, and correct sharply when that hope is at a discount. This will cause some shock to the real economy when it happens, as savers feel poorer.

A rather greater danger is that consumers will come to share O'Brien's worries about their debt burden and stop borrowing: this would be highly deflationary if savers still wished to save as much as ever (the Keynesian trap). However, one must not beingular in this world economy: American borrowers may be stretched, and British borrowers in sight of it, but the Japanese and Germans, among others, have barely begun to borrow.

Provider that demand growth does not falter unduly (and this is the big proviso) a bull market does have a function in the real economy. It greatly reduces the cost of enterprise capital, and so helps to encourage investment in new productive capacity. This, indeed, is the normal sequence in an economic upswing: the real investment boom is quite late entrant.

In the longer run, we face also the age problem. The retirement boom which is already worrying governments from London to Tokyo will not happen until the next century; but when it does, the retired may be net sellers.

You can start worrying about that any time in the next two decades. It's not so much a matter of judgement as temperament. The sanguine won't, the melancholic can't be stopped. Me, I'm phlegmatic,

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## • MARKETS •

# Inevitable setback

**CHOCKS** away? Not quite. British Airways, with its controversial £240m bid for British Caledonian, has been given a heavy oversubscription, did their bit to drive the market to new peaks on Thursday—the climax to an unbroken six-day run.

Yesterday though, the spell broke. Under the weight of some hefty profit-taking, the FT-100 Share index added 11 points on the previous Friday, and more than 61 points during the first four trading days this week.

Factors behind the bullishness were not hard to find. Takeover activity is in full swing, prompting speculative jumps all round. The pound firmed against a weak dollar mid-week, boosting gilts and gold. And there was a generally comforting flow of economic statistics—most notably, the 1 per cent rise in manufacturing production seen during May which stiffened the belief that the year-on-year rate of output growth is running at an extremely healthy 4.5 per cent.

True, this latter trend drew little comfort from the other think-tanks of results last week. Bank Organisation's impressive 29 per cent increase in half-time profits to £90.1m benefited substantially from currency movements and Dixons worried everyone by mentioning that it had looked

## London

market appears to be driven by only a few stocks. That coupled with the high level of small company activity, "creates considerable unease," Warburg Securities put it. "The

set-back yesterday was

inevitable, accentuated by the weakening pound. Even the longer-term bulls were starting to sound cautious, pointing to the large amount of froth and fairly thin business. As War-

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## • MARKETS •

# On and ever up

**TERRIBLE** US trade figures, a weak bond market, rising tensions in the Middle East, and further politically embarrassing testimony in the arms-hostages investigations on Capitol Hill have not been sufficient to derail a US stock market which seems intent on breaking above the 2,500 level on the Dow Jones Industrial Average.

There are plenty of reasons why the stock market could go down but, for the time being, investors are concentrating on the steady stream of strong second-quarter earnings figures which have been rolling across the news wires. Merrill Lynch, the nation's biggest stock broker, is projecting a 30 per cent rise in corporate earnings this year and next, and the latest reported profit figures are fuelling Wall Street's bullish profit projections.

This week, AT & T managed (for once) to upset IBM, its larger high-tech rival. Old Ma Bell, as the US telecommunications giant often is affectionately termed, rang up a spectacular 49 per cent rise in second-quarter earnings per share to 55 cents. Its shares rose by jumping \$1.80 to \$21.78, their highest level since the company divested itself of its faster-growing regional operating companies, often known as the Baby Bells.

IBM, by contrast, dashed the hopes of its more optimistic fans—who had pushed its shares to an all-time high of \$16.97 on the eve of its results

this week—by reporting an 8 per cent decline in its net income per share to \$1.95—its fifth consecutive decline in quarterly earnings.

AT & T's second-quarter performance was just one of several sparkling earnings announcements which pushed Wall Street into new high ground this week. Among the blue chips, Merck's earnings rose 40 per cent to \$1.72; Philip Morris's were 20.6 per cent ahead at \$2; and United Technologies and ITT turned in impressive gains that they may soon be re-labelled as growth stocks.

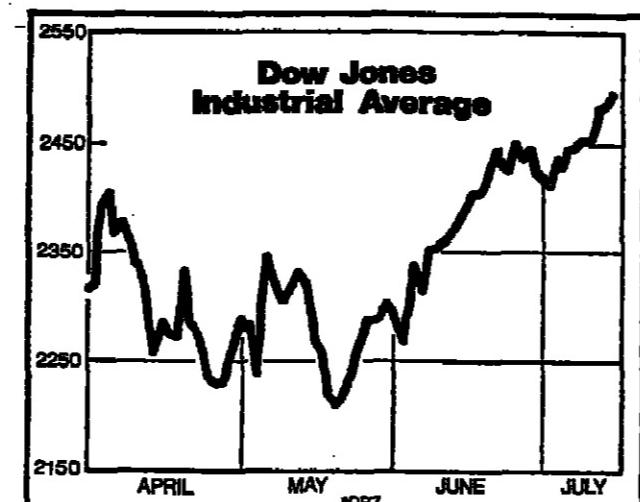
Coca-Cola, which earlier in the week posted a 20.7 per cent rise in earnings per share to 70 cents, announced yesterday that it planned to buy back up to 40m of its shares over the next three years. This pushed its shares more than \$2 higher to \$47. The day before, Philip Morris shares had hit a new peak of \$9.84 after it disclosed plans to spend \$1bn on buying back its shares.

In addition to the strong earnings gains, several house hold names in the US corporate sector increased their dividends substantially this week. E.I.R Nabisco increased its quarterly payout by a fifth to 48 cents a share, whilst the New York Times raised its dividend by 22 per cent to 11 cents per share. The financial sector has also been in the doldrums. The

shares of American Express, the financial services giant, are trading around \$83 compared with a peak of \$40. And US brokerage firms have also taken a hammering over the past few weeks, reflecting increased concern about the heavy bond losses suffered during the spring shakeout in the US credit markets when bond prices collapsed.

American Express's decision to sell off a substantial stake in its Wall Street investment bank, Shearson Lehman Brothers, looks well timed. The shares came to the market in May at \$34 and are now trading at \$27, although the company appears to have escaped the big losses in the credit markets. If managed to increase its earnings by \$1m to \$61.4m in the latest quarter...

Speculation continues to swirl around the future of Texaco,



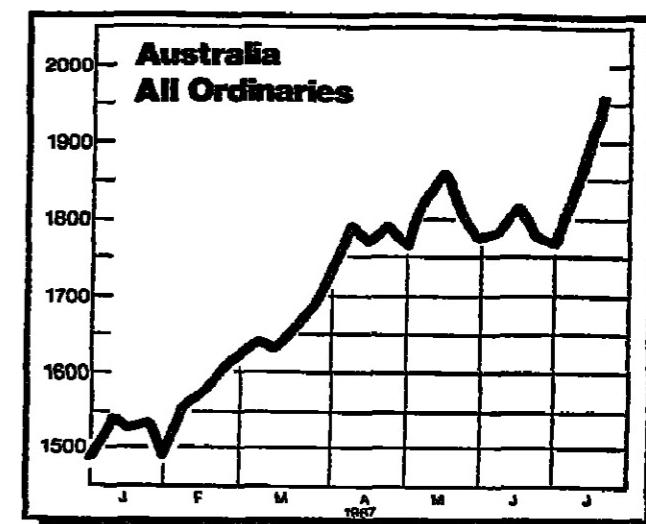
## Dollar fuels boom

LIKE a hardy mountaineer venturing ever higher along an uncharted Himalayan peak, Australia's booming stock market continues to scale undreamed-of heights, blithely ignoring the oft-expressed worries of anxious onlookers.

Just as bullish sentiment has pushed stock markets in New York, London and elsewhere skyward, so optimism has dominated Australia's share markets. How long it will stay that way is anybody's guess.

This week the widely-watched All-Ordinaries index, covering 200 companies across all sectors, jumped 60.1 points to 1975.4, finishing the week at its highest-ever levels.

Over the past three weeks,



ever the market pauses for breath.

Over recent months, it has become plain that one consideration in particular has encouraged local share prices to move upwards—the relative firmness of the Australian dollar.

One year ago, the share market underwent a severe correction when the dollar hit a new low point. Bob Hawke, the Prime Minister, liked the betting that he might be at the controls when the breakaway deadline between Texaco and Pennzoil in, which is seeking \$10bn in damages.

Given the scale of his commitment to a share which is not paying a dividend, Wall Street was betting that he might be at the controls when the breakaway deadline between Texaco and Pennzoil in, which is seeking \$10bn in damages.

Over the past three weeks,

the index has risen no less than 227.1 points. Since the beginning of the year it has added more than 500 points, hitting new records on almost 50 trading days. In a rally which began in mid-1982 the market has tripled, and it is now extremely difficult to find a bargain.

Analysts agree readily on the main international and domestic factors which have driven the market through the year. Paul Keating, the Treasurer, warned Australians that it could become a "banana republic".

Higher domestic interest rates were imposed, which put a floor under the weakened currency, and the Australia dollar soon began firming. Once the currency risk started to evaporate, the overall effect on the stock market was dramatic.

Domestic institutions brought funds back or moved less offshore, while foreign institutions saw a reduced investment risk.

"The weight of money" argument in favour of a rise in stock prices started to hold sway.

In a related development, the international gold price, strengthening as the US dollar weakened because of the US trade deficit, became an influential external factor.

This week, for example, as on

so many recent occasions, the

US trade figures reinforced

gloom over the US dollar and

pushed up the bullion price,

making gold stocks more

attractive.

Australian gold stocks (and

therefore the local share

market) reap a clear benefit,

not only because the country is

a major gold producer but also

because of growing restrictions

on investments in South Africa.

Thus, at the close yesterday

the Gold Stock index finished

at 3,595.1, up almost \$42 on

the figure of three weeks ago.

Early in October last year, it

was well below half this level, at around 1,600.

Resource stocks generally have picked up in line with recent improvements in the price of oil, copper and aluminium. But investor interest has tended to concentrate on better-known mining stocks like CRA, Western Mining and the recently floated BHP Gold.

Latterly, interest also has grown in selected Australian industrial stocks—specifically, blue chips with stable production of their earnings sheet.

They include companies like News Corporation, Elders IXL, TNT, Boral and Pacific Dunlop, which have responded to the changed domestic climate by expanding offshore and hope to capitalise on their invaluable

## Australia

experience in a tricky domestic market.

Brokers say that although the local economic picture is uninspiring, the outlook for corporate profit growth remains relatively strong, at least for larger companies reaping the benefits of rationalisation or expecting a surge in overseas earnings.

Reinforcing these trends has been Australia's comparative attractiveness as jitters have increased in overbought markets like Japan, Germany, as well as American and European, investors have been looking to other equity markets.

Although this overseas buying interest in Australia has weakened slightly in recent weeks, the underlying trend still is upwards. Average daily turnover on the Australian share markets of A\$250m a day in June is well above the 1986 average of A\$160m.

Chris Sherwell

## Hopeful signs for North Sea oil

WHEN THE price of oil goes up, oil companies start to feel the benefit almost at once, as higher prices are quickly translated into higher revenues. The next link in the chain—from higher revenues to higher expenditure—is more tenuous, as oil companies are reluctant to spend more unless the oil price increase is large and appears permanent.

This explains why most oil sector share prices rose in tandem with the oil price, while oil service companies lagged behind. But after six months with oil at \$18 a barrel, some of the first signs are emerging of new investment in the North Sea. Last week Shell announced the first major oil development since the oil price collapsed, and at least half a dozen other new fields are now likely to be developed sooner than later.

Nobody pretends that the North Sea is moving back towards another boom. But last week the supply industry was

suffering so badly that the existence of many of the companies was threatened. The small improvement now in evidence may be just enough to tip the balance and give the supply companies enough work to tide them over until the North Sea genuinely starts to thrive again.

The companies which have been worst hit by last year's recession have been the drillers. It seems investors have become used to an unvaried diet of bad news and disappointment from drilling companies that they have been slow to absorb the fact that things are a little brighter.

Indeed, the market was positively shocked on Monday when KCA Drilling, one of the largest British drilling companies announced a deal which could find no buyers—an unemployed drilling ship was something most companies would pay to get rid

of. But on Monday KCA announced that Orion Bank had agreed to take on the ship and its £10m debt associated with the £10m debt associated with the £10m debt.

This time a year ago, KCA seemed to be in deep difficulty. Both its two main offshore vessels, a large semi-submersible rig and a drillship were out of work. The cost of keeping them idle was running into several millions of dollars a year, and its debts were mounting.

KCA decided to cut its losses and sell the drillship, but could find no buyers—an unemployed drilling ship was something most companies would pay to get rid

of. But on Monday KCA announced that Orion Bank had agreed to take on the ship and its £10m debt associated with the £10m debt.

company's future. Midland and Scottish, a privately owned offshore supplies company, is

planning to inject money into Jebens in return for a con-

trolling stake.

The fact that both companies

should have found solutions to their problems at the same time is no coincidence, as neither deal could have been struck without some prospect of a pick up in drilling activity.

At the worst time last winter

about 60 per cent of all North

Sea rigs were idle, and the rigs

which were lucky enough to

have work were being paid at rates which did not nearly cover

settled.

But during the next month

or so Jebens' shareholders

should receive details of a deal

which will save the company

and give them a stake in the

company has recently bought a

stake in the Emerald oil field in the North Sea, which is a candidate for early development, and for which Midland and Scottish is bidding as a contractor. The company has also set up a joint venture to specialise in developing small oil fields—on which the North Sea industry will become increasingly dependent as fewer large fields are discovered—which could create further work for the rigs in the future.

While the North Sea looks a

happier place for its supply

companies than it did a year

ago, neither Jebens nor KCA

would dare to display anything

more than the most cautious

optimism. The extent of overcapacity in the industry—now

down to about 40 per cent—is

keeping rates uncomfortably

low, and in some cases rigs are

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White Jebens three rigs are

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## • FINANCE &amp; THE FAMILY •

**PEP for the people**

TSB's scheme aims to woo small savers, says John Edwards

**THE "PEOPLE'S PEP"** is how TSB describes its Personal Equity Plan, to be launched on Monday. It claims that by holding back until July it has evolved a scheme designed to appeal to the small saver—the Cheltenham original target rather than the sophisticated investor, who would gain most from the tax advantages offered.

Unfortunately the "People's PEP" doesn't seem to offer very good value for money. The choice is very restricted and the charges geared to hit the smaller investor hardest.

The plan offers a minimum £50 a month or a lump sum of £250. The first £20 is put into a TSB unit trust, initially the British Growth Trust. Instalments above £20 are put into a de-

posit account until £300 has been accumulated. This is taken out to buy a single share from the FTSE 100 index selected by the TSB investment manager.

Further tranches of £200 build up to further single shares up to a maximum of six shares if you reach the maximum contribution of £2,400. The last £180 is also invested in a unit trust, making a total of £260.

No one could claim that a portfolio of six shares represents a balanced portfolio, and during the build-up period you are exposed to even greater risk by relying on even fewer shares. It is the smaller saver, unable or unwilling to afford the full annual contribution of £2,400, who is the most vulnerable to the TSB investment terms.

The charging structure also discriminates against the small investor. For current plans—that is the first year—the annual management fees are

£15 for investments up to £300 (equivalent to 6 per cent on the minimum) £25 for investments between £301 and £949; and £40 above £1,000 (equivalent to 1.6 per cent on the maximum of £2,400).

For holding plans—that is the second year—the annual fees are reduced to £10, £15 and £25, and for mature plans a charge of 1 per cent of the market value is made but subject to a minimum of £20.

For the first year investment the normal 5 per cent initial charge is waived, but the monthly management fee of 0.085 per cent is retained. There are no charges for share dealing but you do pay the stamp duty and VAT on all charges. There is a £30 charge for withdrawing from a current or holding plan, and if you require more than two statements a year, a £10 charge will be made.

Not a plan for the small investor to say Yes to.

**Mortgage without proof**

BUYERS OF new houses or flats are being offered a novel mortgage deal under which they have to provide no proof of income, but still pay only an interest rate of 9.5 per cent.

The Moneymaster Gold Scheme from Moneycentre, a London-based adviser, strikes a new note in that the home loan essentially is secured on the property rather than the person. The loan can be transferred to the new owner of a property if sold and there are no early repayment penalties.

There are two restrictions. The minimum loan is £100,000, although there is no maximum, and the maximum advance must not exceed 80 per cent of the purchase price or valuation. Unusually these days, the mortgage is repayable at capital and interest only: no endowment or pensions are available.

The interest rate charged is linked to the Libor (London Interbank Offered Rate) three months forward rate, with a premium added of only 0.625 per cent. It is revised every three months, but the premium remains unchanged.

The property can be let, so the scheme is particularly suitable for overseas purchasers and professional or business people.

Moneycentre, of 22 Gayfere Street, London, SW1 (01-795

1477) charges an arrangement fee of 1 per cent on amounts up to £500,000, 0.75 up to £1m, and 0.5 above £1m. However, it also offers conveyancing by panel solicitors for only £15 on a property of any price.

Meanwhile, the Cheltenham and Gloucester Building Society has widened the scope of its "interest only" mortgages, aimed particularly at homeowners who have retired. These loans are now available on up to 75 per cent of the property value instead of the previous maximum of 50 per cent.

Under the scheme, only the interest—now 12.5 per cent—is paid each month and the capital borrowed is repayable when the property is sold or from the borrower's estate on death.

It is available either for the purchase of a new home or to make repairs or improvements to an existing property. You can also use it to buy an annuity which would cover the interest on the loan and provide the home-owner with extra income.

A NEW offshore bank account, based in the Isle of Man, is being introduced on Monday by a local subsidiary of Robert Fleming, the London merchant bank. The Manx High Interest Bank

J. E.

Eric Short

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## • FINANCE &amp; THE FAMILY •

## Certainty for options

The election result has confirmed the value of a big tax scheme for executives, writes David Cohen

**APPROVED SHARE** option schemes have become one of the executive's favourite perks since they were introduced in 1984. But they were overshadowed by two key factors which threatened the advantages that made them so popular. During the past two months, however, both these threats have been swept away.

One threat was the outcome of the General election. The Labour Party had never made any secret of its opposition to tax-privileged executive option schemes and it was feared that, if a Labour government was elected, certain tax privileges introduced in 1984, which have yet to be enjoyed, might be cancelled.

The great attraction of the approved scheme is that it gives option-holders a shelter from income tax. Before 1984, any gains realised on the exercise of a share option granted by a company to staff was subject to income tax at the employee's top rate.

The 1984 scheme scrapped the liability to income — although not capital gains — tax. However, one condition

was that the option must not be exercised before a minimum of three and a maximum of 10 years from the date on which it was granted.

It was not possible for any scheme to be approved by the Inland Revenue before August 1984 at the earliest. This meant that nobody was in a position to make an income tax-free exercise before the general election; hence the uncertainty.

When Labour was returned to power in 1974, it promptly scrapped the Hock Government's approved scheme. Employees with unexercised options at that time were charged income tax later when they did exercise them. No doubt the same fate would have been in store for the class of '84 if Neil Kinnock had become prime minister.

Mrs Thatcher's victory not only removes uncertainty for existing shareholders. It also means that, for the first time, approved option schemes can be taken up. The reasonable expectation that the tax rules will stay constant throughout the option's life-span.

Politics aside, the other major shadow overhanging approved options has been the rash of company takeovers and mergers.

Until now, option-holders in a company which has been taken over have faced an

unenviable choice between abandoning their options altogether or exercising them early before the minimum three-year period, becoming liable for income tax on the gain.

Recognising the unfairness of this, the Chancellor announced in this year's Budget that option-holders in companies being taken over would be allowed to swap existing options for equivalent new ones in the acquiring company.

The effect of the concession is that the tax rules are applied to the replacement option as if it were a continuation of the original.

Suppose, for example, that Mr X exercises an option for shares in Oldco, plc in November 1986. In January 1989, Oldco is taken over by Newco. Employees of Oldco are offered the opportunity by Newco to swap their options in Oldco for options in Newco shares. Mr X accepts this offer.

He provides Mr X with the exercise of his new option until November 1989, he will avoid having to pay income tax on the profits made. This is because the relevant maximum period is calculated from the date of the original grant.

Although this dispenses the income tax problem in an option swap, the Chancellor's original proposals failed to allow for the possibility that the option exchange might trigger a liability to pay capital gains tax.

This omission was pointed out while the Finance Bill was being considered, and the Bill was amended to exempt the exchange from any theoretical CGT charge that might arise from the exchange of options. However, this still left a potential CGT exposure for the company taking over, and this is to be dealt with in the second Finance Bill now going through Parliament.

THE MOVE towards a cashless society was taken a step further this week with the publication of proposals for paying your shopping bills electronically.

The proposals, put forward in a consultative document, are designed to ensure that there is sufficient competition between the financial institutions offering these services in the hope that the consumer will gain from at least some of the cost-saving benefits on offer.

But the key question is: who is really going to benefit most from the development of EFTPOS (electronic funds transfer at point of sale)? The banks? The retailers? The consumers?

The banks want to reduce the huge amount of paperwork caused by cheques and at the same time to limit fraud, preferring to get rid of cheques altogether and save money on the time and costs involved in processing them.

The retailers, despite their recent opposition to Barclays' "Connect" debit card, welcome computerisation which will make accounting and stock-keeping procedures much easier.

For the consumer, however, the benefits are not quite so clear. The lifting of the £50 limit imposed by a cheque guarantee card is a plus point. Paying electronically, with the amount deducted from your bank account, also means you can dispense with bulky cheque books.

David Shriver charts the latest development in cashless shopping

## Electronic debit will do nicely

paying. There is also the simple confusion over the plethora of store cards, charge cards, credit cards and direct debit cards now on the market.

Meanwhile, progress made by EFTPOS UK Ltd, the joint company set up by the 12 clearing banks to sort out how costs should be shared with the retail industry, means that the creation of a nationwide scheme becomes a distinct possibility in the near future.

Whether these moves succeed depends to a great extent on the ability of the banks and the retailers to convince the public that cashless shopping has definite advantages.

\* "Business Service Specification for the EFTPOS UK manual service—public consultation document." EFTPOS UK, 32 City Rd, London EC1Y 1AA. Free.

## Guide to unit trusts

THE RECENT rapid expansion in the number of unit trusts, to more than 1,000 funds, means there is a bewildering choice for investors. So, unless you rely on expert advice which might not be entirely unbiased, what do you look for when choosing a unit trust?

The retailers, despite their recent opposition to Barclays' "Connect" debit card, welcome computerisation which will make accounting and stock-keeping procedures much easier.

The innate conservatism of the British public will be a major obstacle to technological advance, he believes. But he adds that ATMs (automated teller machines) are unambiguously the success story of the day, and no one in 1987 could have predicted that today people

are employing credit cards for shopping may prefer to keep on using them since they would lose the extended period for payment that credit cards provide. With electronic payments, the money is debited immediately from the customer's account.

So, if consumers are to be persuaded to change from credit to debit cards, some sort of encouragement might be necessary. This could come in the form of price deductions to compensate for the loss of this "grace period".

Martin Smith, of the National Consumer Council, predicts "slow and painful progress" before cashless shopping is accepted. Although Smith sees quicker handling of transactions as a bonus, he doubts how much benefit will pass on to the consumer.

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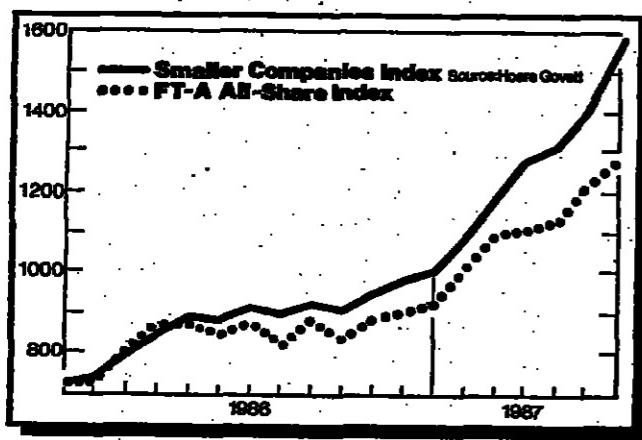
are employing credit cards for shopping may prefer to keep on using them since they would lose the extended period for payment that credit cards provide. With electronic payments, the money is debited immediately from the customer's account.

Veronica McGrath of the Consumers Association suggests that this reluctance to change has definite advantages.

It is explained in a new consumer finance magazine, Unit Trust Investor, published under the imprint of the Stock Exchange Press.

The magazine, priced at £1.25, provides basic information about unit trusts as well as measuring their individual performance.

There are three indicators covering aggressiveness, volatility and performance, but perhaps the most telling measurement is how individual funds have performed against the comparable stock market index.



### SMALL IS BEAUTIFUL

**SMALLER** companies continue to provide a better return for investors, according to the latest survey by London stockbroker Heare Govett. In the first half of the year, the total return of the Heare Govett smaller companies index rose by 26 per cent, 16 per cent more than the rise in the Financial Times Actuaries All-Share index.

Heare Govett's smaller companies index, which was launched in February, is made up of 1,266 companies which at the beginning of the year represented the bottom 10 per cent by value of the main share market. It included all companies valued at £100m or less.

The survey shows that the share prices of smaller companies were particularly rewarding in June, when they rose by 11.3 per cent compared with an increase of 5.4 per cent in the FT-A All-Share Index.

John Houlihan of Heare

Govett says there is ample evidence that, over the longer term, the smaller company sector will continue to outperform leading stocks.

He notes that many fund managers who traditionally have dismissed smaller companies as being irrelevant to performance have changed their minds, and adds that there has been a spate of unit trusts launched to invest in smaller companies.

Another London stockbroker, Phillips & Drew, announced this week it has set up a new type of fund to exploit the above-average investment returns achieved by smaller companies in the UK over the past 20 years. The fund does not select individual companies; instead it invests indiscriminately in 275 smaller stocks that make up 5.5 per cent of the total capitalisation of the FT-A All-Share Index.

John Edwards

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BAILEY SHATKIN

## • FINANCE &amp; THE FAMILY •

SASSENACHES MUST wonder why so many successful investment and insurance companies are to be found in Scotland.

A visit to Edinburgh quickly shows why people like working in that elegant city. But why should it be the second most important financial centre in Europe bearing in mind Scotland's relatively small population, the high unemployment and the lack of special fiscal incentives?

Is it something in the water, or is it just traditional caution with money which makes investors trust Scottish companies to look after them well?

Whatever the answer there is no doubt that Scottish companies have made the most of the explosion in financial services and investment during the past 10 years or so.

One group that has done particularly well is Edinburgh Fund Managers, whose shares last week moved up from the Unlisted Securities Market to a full listing on the London Stock Exchange.

The decision to go for a full listing marks the company's determination to upgrade its image as a small investment boutique that was especially good in the Japanese market.

The group has come a long way since it was formed in 1969 to take over the management of American Trust (formed in 1902) which had net assets of some £33m. By 1983 the value

of funds under management had grown to £430m, and now it is close to £1bn.

To many people's surprise the group's pension division was recently appointed joint manager of the Hounslow Borough Superannuation Fund in the face of severe competition. The business of managing discretionary funds is growing fast and is expected soon to exceed the traditional investment trust business.

EFM is also making its mark in the unit trust industry. It is now the 41st biggest unit trust group, with funds under management totalling £230m. Several of its 10 trusts, at varying times, top the performance table in their respective sectors.

Not surprisingly, in view of its past reputation, one of the top performers is its Tokyo Fund, but it has achieved uniformly good returns over a five-year period with its UK Capital and High Distribution funds.

When General Accident, the sleeping giant of the insurance industry, wakened recently and decided to introduce unit-linked products, it turned to EFM to

manage the funds. It also took a 15 per cent stake in the company acquired from Lashiff Association of Scotland.

To make doubly sure General Accident also bought a 15 per cent stake in American Trust, which has 34 per cent of the EFM equity.

With these holdings, and EFM executives and staff owning another 16 per cent, there is a limited amount (15 per cent) available to outside shareholders. So trading activity in

the stock is restricted by an absence of sellers.

Nevertheless, EFM believes a full listing will help its plans for expansion into new areas, especially overseas. It already has links with companies in the US, Australia and Holland, but it wants to build up an international network.

A full listing, with better quality paper, will obviously help in negotiating joint ventures for overseas markets.

One of the great advantages

of being based in Edinburgh is that it is much easier to keep an investment team together which is one of the key ingredients of success.

So far not many of the highly successful Scottish fund managers have been lured by the high salaries paid in London. Perhaps they are too cautious or simply enjoy the less frantic Edinburgh lifestyle. EFM has lost only a few staff since the Big Bang and has no trouble in finding bright trainees to supplement the experienced and established investment team.

Since the bulk of its unit trust business is done via intermediaries, a good investment track record has to be maintained if the group is to continue expanding. It has, though, made some wrong decisions.

Arriving late in Europe, with a fund that invested 40 per cent in bonds, was a mistake. This is now being rectified with the whole portfolio being turned into equities.

EFM believes there is no substitute for personal visits to companies. Maintaining its investment track record is considered vital in remaining competitive and attracting the right kind of partners for expansion worldwide.

fear that the group had lost its major tonic in Japan by sticking to the traditional export-oriented stocks for too long. But the Tokyo Fund came back with a vengeance last year, although it still lags behind the UK Capital performance on a five-year return basis.

A savings plan for unit trusts to be introduced in August will have a special deferred switch facility, which means you can leave one fund and put your money into a high-interest deposit account, while deciding about your investment strategy for the future. In this way you can make the most of your capital gains exemption annually and not be rushed straight into some other fund.

With a steady growth in profits, from £522,000 for the year to January 1983, to £5.7m in the year to January 1987, EFM has built up a large cash balance to protect itself in lean times. It has also spent heavily buying up more spacious premises in Edinburgh, training in computers and software, and making sure there is plenty of money for its research team to keep in close touch with market developments and companies in which it has invested.

EFM believes there is no substitute for personal visits to companies. Maintaining its investment track record is considered vital in remaining competitive and attracting the right kind of partners for expansion worldwide.

## Tradition that dies hard

**Alex Nicoll explains why an older kind of option refuses to be displaced**

if the holder decides to "exercise" the option.

Options in general offer the buyer the ability to make large speculative profits—or to protect their stock market portfolio with potential losses limited to the premium or price paid for the option.

In some cases the traditional market offers more flexibility. Whereas traded options are available only in selected stocks, traditional options can be written on virtually any UK equity and, at least in theory, on foreign stocks as well.

Traded options come in standard lots—which can be dealt only in multiples—while traditional options can be written for very small or very large amounts. Traditional options provide a third alternative to the call and the put: "the call," "double" and "double."

The price for this greater scope is reduced flexibility in some other aspects. Traded options, as the name implies, can be traded, but traditional options cannot. Traded options can be exercised at any time during their life, while traditional options, with a life of about three months, can be exercised on the one Declaration Day in each fortnightly Stock Exchange account period.

Private punters are more likely to be the buy side in traditional terminology—the "givers." Institutions wanting to make a little extra premium income on their portfolio are more likely to be writers, or, in this market, the "takers."

Options—also known over the counter as "time bargains"—and "referrals"—have been banned or suspended at various times. But as Walford observes, "they always seem to come back." With traded options expanding into more and more stocks, there could be a reduced role for the traditional variety.

This could do much to revitalise that area of Britain as well as provide some proper competition, as the privatised BAA has not been given a monopoly to run all the airports in Britain.

**Kevin Goldstein-Jackson**



been with BAA for less than three years.

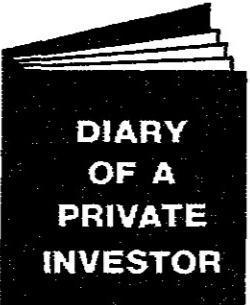
With so many new "top people," one of two things could well happen. The new management will feel it has to perform far better than its predecessor and will produce some innovative ideas for dramatically increasing profits; or it will take some time to settle in, perhaps with some "personality clashes," and profits will be much the same as in previous years.

If BAA proves spectacularly profitable, then perhaps some enterprising companies will form a consortium to build a new, large, highly-efficient and attractive airport in, say, Yorkshire or Humberside to take over the millions of passengers in the north and Midlands who would otherwise have to travel to London for their international flights.

This could do much to revitalise that area of Britain as well as provide some proper competition, as the privatised BAA has not been given a monopoly to run all the airports in Britain.

**Kevin Goldstein-Jackson**

## Dangerous debts



Now, with Midland finally admitting the full extent of its problems, its shares are over 300p. Why?

When Midland eventually sold Crocker Bank to Wells Fargo, it retained responsibility for some £3.1bn of Crocker's loans to Latin American countries as well as a number of its other poor loans.

Midland is now providing \$1.9bn against Third World debts, having a right to issue at

300p on a one-for-one basis to raise \$700m, and is selling off three of its banking groups.

Personally, I would have thought that 300p was about the right level for all Midland shares. But then, I'm only a private investor using my own money. I am not an institutional investor using other people's money and concerned with having a "proper weighting" in bank shares.

So long as institutions take this attitude, banking shares will remain high.

Having recently spent two weeks in Brazil, I am even more convinced that buying shares in banks with large outstanding loans to that country is dangerous. Brazil owes well over \$100bn to other countries and some of this money appears to have been wasted on grandiose (and economically useless) projects. I cannot see Brazil ever being able to repay its debts.

Of particular interest to anyone planning a trip to Brazil is that there is a thriving black market in foreign currency. It is far better to take US or UK currency than travellers cheques, which can be exchanged only at banks and hotels at considerably less than the black market currency rate.

You can always keep spare cash locked away in the hotel safe and, by ignoring travellers cheques, you also save on commission charges.

MY WIFE and I have applied for a modest number of shares in BAA. The issue is likely to be over-subscribed, and we could end up either with a much-reduced shareholding or no share at all. Although the shares are likely to attract a reasonable premium, if we received only a few shares the profit would not cover the bank interest lost on a large application.

There are also many other interesting investment opportunities now available where the potential rewards are greater in the medium term

than BAA.

Reading the BAA prospectus, I was somewhat surprised at the number of directors and senior staff who have joined the company only recently. Jeremy Marshall (the chief executive) joined this year, and William Shaw (group finance director) joined in 1986.

Of the 10 main board directors, seven joined BAA less than three years ago; and five of the 11 listed members of senior management have

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In some cases the company may be restructured, new management installed, new products launched, new ideas and techniques introduced. Alternatively,

company's shares may be cheap that a small company needs to raise them over. You can then buy them at a cheap rate into the stockmarket. Whatever happens, it's nearly always good news for the investor who was brave enough to buy when the company was down.

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## Suisse Romande

The Financial Times proposes to publish a survey on the French speaking part of Switzerland on September 25th

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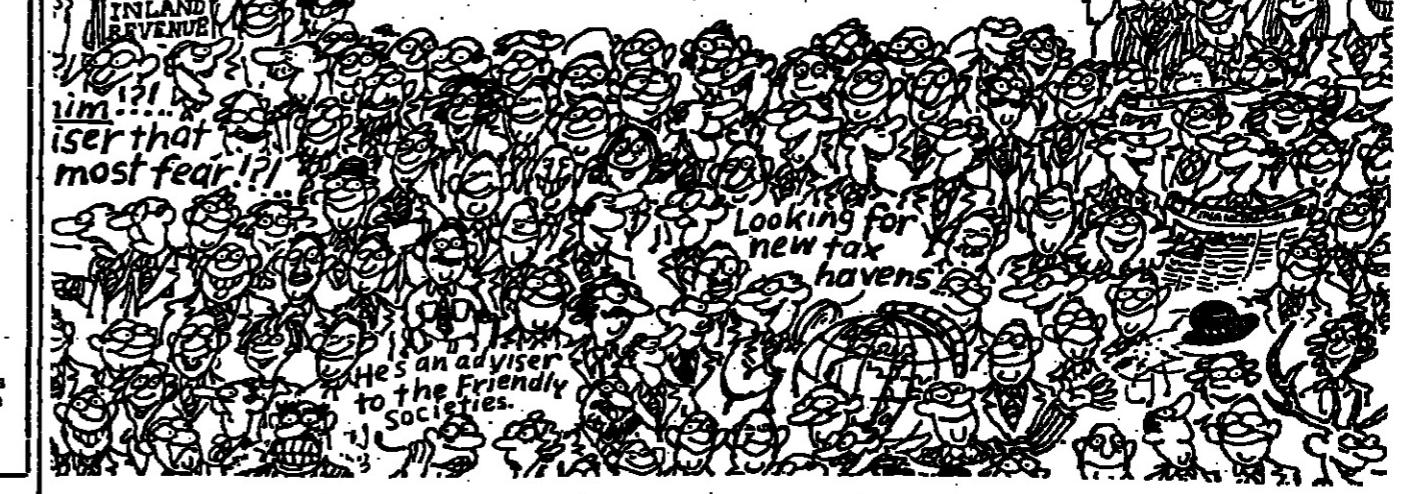
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### — FINANCIAL ADVISER —



# Enjoying a home

My home, in which I have lived for over 20 years, is a large Victorian house, situated in approximately five acres of orchards, lawns, formal gardens etc with matching brick built stables, coach house and barn. It was all valued in 1986 (when I inherited the property) by Inland Revenue officers, who inspected the property, at a very high price. I have always used all of my home for my own enjoyment and pleasure, so I think I should not be liable to capital gains tax if I sell to a developer.

To prevent argument with the Inspector, however, and expense, can I request an appointment now to discuss, and confirm, that I shall not have to pay any tax?

The exemption from capital gains tax applies to the disposal of your only or main residence, applies to the house and curtilage up to one acre or such larger areas as the Commissioners may allow as being appropriate for the enjoyment of the house in question. As you have five acres it would be necessary to have an adjudication allowing the whole (or some part in the excess of one acre) of the five acres to be within the exemption. There is no reason why you should not approach the Capital Taxes Office with a view to having the matter agreed in advance of any sale you may wish to make.

## Fall on pavement

As a result of a defective and uneven pavement I fell heavily, tearing my trousers at the knee, and they are now useless. My knee was badly bruised and cut. The uneven pavement was in front of the house where the residents had witnessed my fall and had come to my assistance. It appears that others had fallen at this place.

Have I a claim on the council for replacement of my torn clothing?

If the highway authority had been previously warned of the defect and then failed to remedy it, you would have a claim for the damage which you suffered.

## Bonds held on trust

About 1972 my husband and I

paid £2,000 Premium Bonds in my name. We were a few small amounts which were always shared by ourselves and our three children. In 1986 we decided to buy some more bonds and my children thought it would be a good idea if they all contributed to this to enable us to buy a further £2,000 so that we had the money. We did this and the £2,000 of bonds are all in my name. Since then we have won several more small amounts, all of which are equally shared. I know that no tax is payable on winnings from these bonds; at any rate, I would not be liable as they are all in my name. In the unlikely event of us winning a big bond, however,

what is the position tax-wise over the share my children would be entitled to?

You can ensure that no tax will be payable if you make a formal declaration in writing that you hold the bonds on trust for the five of you (naming each individual) equally. A copy of the declaration should be given to each beneficiary and the original kept with the bonds. We must apologise for the delay in replying to your query.

## Solicitor needed

My wife and I own our house as tenants in common. Because of changed circumstances, we now wish to become joint tenants of the property.

As pensioners, we wish, if possible, to avoid solicitors' fees for what is, presumably, a straightforward clerical action. How should we go about it?

It is not possible to revert to a joint tenancy in equity with the same simplicity as you can sever a joint tenancy and create a tenancy in common. You would probably have to terminate the existing trust for sale and create a fresh trust. It would be unwise for you to try to do this without consulting a solicitor both as to the desirability of doing this and as to means. One method would be to convey the property to one of you alone, followed by a further conveyance to you both as joint tenants, but this would depend on whether you can give a certificate of value.

## Deduction of debts

I am a widower and several years ago for family reasons I signed a memorandum, accompanied by the deposit of the title deeds of my house, to secure existing and future advances made to me by my daughters for extensions, improvements, and generally refurbishing the property.

Will the existence of this document on my death reduce the value of the property and, accordingly, any inheritance tax payable?

No. The deducibility of debts is dealt with in Section 5 of the Inheritance Tax Act 1984 and section 103 of the Finance Act 1986. An explanatory booklet, IHTA, is obtainable by sending an SAE (at least 28cm by 23cm) to the Capital Taxes Office, Rockley Road, London W1S 0DF.

## New will necessary

Living in Scotland up to five years ago, I made my will there and it is deposited with a Dundee solicitor with a "Seals" friend as my executors.

Living in England now, I wonder if you can tell me whether there will be any difficulty in proving the will as I shall certainly die in England.

I cannot think of any but perhaps you can. Will it be

quite all right to leave my will where it is?

If your will was not executed in English form, i.e. by your signature in front of two witnesses both of whom then signed to attest your signature, you should re-execute your will to conform with the requirements of English law. It does not matter where the will is located physically.

## Executor's dilemma

A legatee has a long history of major mental illnesses, is now home again, and receives fortnightly "moderate" injections. How can a sole executor procure the medical information necessary to ascertain if a receipt of the application is in order? The late consultant and GP are all being unco-operative.

If you are only concerned to pay the legacy and get a good receipt you can write to the legatee's general practitioner explaining that your purpose in making inquiry is just that and see if you can elicit an answer which will satisfy you as to the position. If you are doubtful despite the response from the GP you can pay the money into court.

## Inspector must decide

If we let our granny amerce/ staff cottage (which is attached to our garage but not to the main house, though close to it) previously used by family, guests and domestic help, will this give rise to a capital gains tax liability or is it exempt by virtue of being part of our home and only one sixth of the area of it?

Yours sounds like a borderline case, where much will depend upon the view taken by your tax inspector (or by the Appeal Commissioners) after you have eventually sold your home—unless you are thinking of selling the annexe separately.

Since you will be asking your solicitor to draw up the tenancy agreement, presumably, you can take the opportunity to ask him or her about the possible CGT consequences. On balance, you may well decide that it is not worthwhile to let CGT fears make you leave the annexe empty until your solicitor can explain the possibilities in the light of the many cases on the point, two of which were won by the Inland Revenue.

## Damaged couch

I am in dispute with my insurance company over damage to the couch comprising part of a bedroom/dining room suite. It admits liability against my new-for-old policy but insists on confirming this to the damaged item whereas I maintain that the three pieces be considered as a unit because it is impossible to re-match the velvet.

It will depend on the precise

terms of the policy.

Living in England now, I wonder if you can tell me whether there will be any difficulty in proving the will as I shall certainly die in England.

I cannot think of any but perhaps you can. Will it be

quite all right to leave my will where it is?

If your will was not executed in English form, i.e. by your signature in front of two witnesses both of whom then signed to attest your signature, you should re-execute your will to conform with the requirements of English law. It does not matter where the will is located physically.

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 A vast two bedroom riverside apartment in prime conversion ideal for transport and shopping. Reception facing south. Kitchen, separate wc, bath, shower, wc, built-in wardrobes. Garage. Leasehold.

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## PROPERTY

John Brennan takes estate agents to task for their use of language

## Life in the lap of hyperbole

"LUXURY" appears so frequently and is used so indiscriminately in estate agents' particulars that the word is in danger of becoming meaningless. Yet for all its failings, "luxury" might still be preserved as a useful word in the agents' vocabulary if both writers and readers of property descriptions had rough working knowledge of one another's definitions.

This is a daunting but not entirely hopeless task.

The residential developers are prime culprits in adding to the random mare of "luxury" signs that fill the market. It is impossible to resist adding a "luxury" tag to every building with which they come in contact. It is only a matter of time before they start to soliloquise about "luxury" car parking spaces and "luxury" hampers.

It is also self-evidently true that some agents' understanding of the term "luxurious" is, to put it at its most charitable, highly individualistic. The only plausible excuse is that they themselves must live in condemned tents on some gothically awful municipal refuse tip, and are so genuinely impressed by

the prospect of selling a property with doors and windows that they are inspired to write about these as luxury fittings.

The search for a standard image of what constitutes a "luxury" property is further complicated by invasion of specific plumbers.

Evidence of these high living teams of bidet-planters comes in sales particulars where proprietors claim to have "luxuriously fitted" bathrooms. The luxury fittings are probably left for all to see, but what about the "luxurious" fittings? This conjures up the irresistible image of plumbers in velvet smoking jackets, languidly spanning away amongst the gold tap fittings, stopping now and then to nibble truffle sandwiches from their Fortnum & Mason hamper.

The hope of finding solid meaning for the word lies among those agents who regularly deal with unimpressive luxury items. At least some of these agents do seem to have a clear understanding of what they intend to convey when they describe a house or

flat as a "luxury" property.

Adrian Wright of Collander Wright regards "luxury" as a relative term. "I don't like the word. I think it doesn't mean a great deal, and we try not to use it, but when it is applied I would think that it means that the property is above the average for the area. So a luxury flat in Wimbledon would be above the average for that area, and a luxury flat being sold from our Cadogan Street office would be above the average for around here."

"But it is a word that is used very freely by estate agents," says Linda Bowmer of Hamnett & Sons, accepts that a lot of agents leave themselves wide open for criticism when they overload the superlatives. "I looked at a cottage myself the other day that was said to be 'in need of some refurbishment', and it turned out to be more in need of demolition."

But what of the elusive definition of "luxury"? Looking at them, she says. "My definition would be that it is an extremely good decorative condition, well fitted out, with a good balance of accommodation, closed circuit TV security, a spacious

either porters or 24 hour security, and a good entrance hall with a high standard of design. Ideally, it ought to have car parking, and you're talking of properties in an established good area."

Garry Hershman of Basschamp Estates echoes the need for luxury property to have a high standard of bath, kitchen, and security fittings as well as a good location. But he also identifies two distinct types of "luxury" properties.

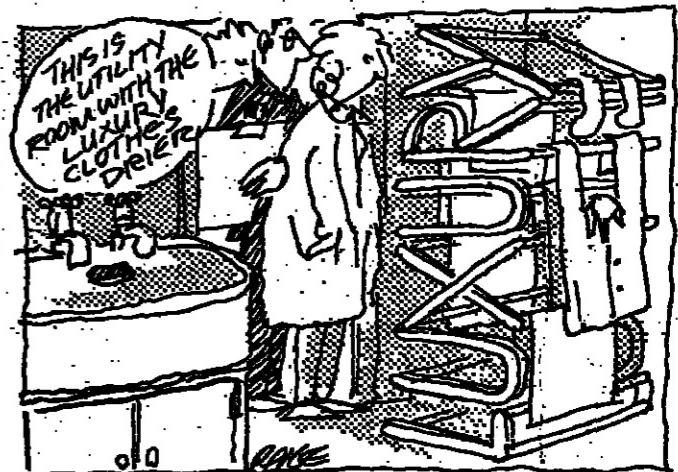
"There are indisputably grand houses with magnificent rooms, where the mind can go into the running for a luxury label. So too would a fully-tiled and well-fitted bathroom. It wouldn't be 'luxury' if it didn't have a bidet... that sort of thing. It's the standard and composition of the flat, its outlook and position that is all part of it. Yet some people put down 'luxury' if a place has brass doorhandles and the like."

In contrast, while Garry Hershman has been busy selling his usual mix of six and seven figure prime flats and grand town houses, Tom Trudigan has been resisting the temptation to add anything as big as a two-bedroom flat to his sales list. Trudigan, managing director of Stern Studios, operates at the other end of the market from Hershman in terms of property size and price. Stern deals exclusively with one-bedroom studio flat in London, so it is one flat that rarely has cause to tick "luxury" on its sale details.

In the small flat business, as Trudigan says, "We don't use the word much. We have to have rigid guidelines about flat descriptions because people wanting to buy a place usually have to waste an enormous amount of time wading through agents' particulars where a lot of phrases used are quite meaningless. We keep the descriptions short, and include a floor plan. That's all they want."

However, selling small flats doesn't mean selling only low-cost, first-time properties. "All sorts of people want smaller flats—because of the divorce rate, people are moving out of London and keeping a flat here, people moving in with new jobs... there are all sorts of reasons, and all sorts of flats." Stern does, therefore, have a number of units that could carry a "luxury" description.

So what does constitute



well finished to rank as off-the-peg country estates, would normally justify a luxury rating as well.

Although the agents do have a pretty clear view of what is, and what is not, a luxury property, this selectivity doesn't always survive as far as their sales descriptions. Often enough, it's decided by their clients.

If anyone is instructing an agent to handle a property sale asked for brochures and sales material that contained only the unvarnished truth, it is possible that "luxury" would turn up far less frequently. But, as Garry Hershman explains, sellers rarely take an objective view of their own homes.

"When people ask you to look at a property to sell, they will often say that it's quite out of the ordinary; they are sure it is the best presented house or flat you've ever seen. What they forget is that you've probably seen 30 or 40 places that week, every one of them with someone who thinks that's the best thing on the market."

Linda Beaney finds that while individual owners are certainly keen to see their home promoted as hard as possible, they would seem comparatively unconcerned alongside the residential developers. They increasingly insist on checking and revising every comma of an agent's sales particulars, and retain an uncontrolled passion for "luxury" as a way of giving buyers appeal to a property.

Like that old favourite but long since debased description, "a prestige property," "luxury" could be heading for the scrap heap of usable adjectives. Meanwhile, it is working hard. It still helps to keep vendors happy. It still serves as part of the agents' shorthand. And it may even tell prospective buyers something about a property, although they had better keep an eye out for those video entry phones and biders if they want to be sure.



even here. The Cirencester office of Jackson & Staff (0285 3334) is looking for offers around £215,000 for the six-bedroom house with walled garden backing onto the churchyard.

**CRICKLADE**, a few miles south of Cirencester over the Wiltshire border, and north from Swindon from the M4, is Cotswold fringe country with more than its share of fine properties. But a substantially unmodernised Queen Anne Town House is something of a rarity

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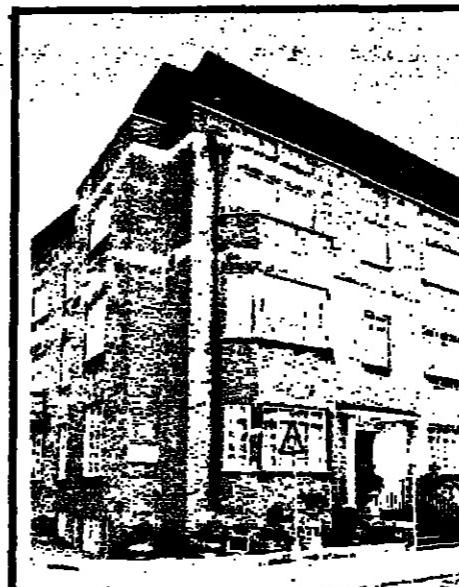
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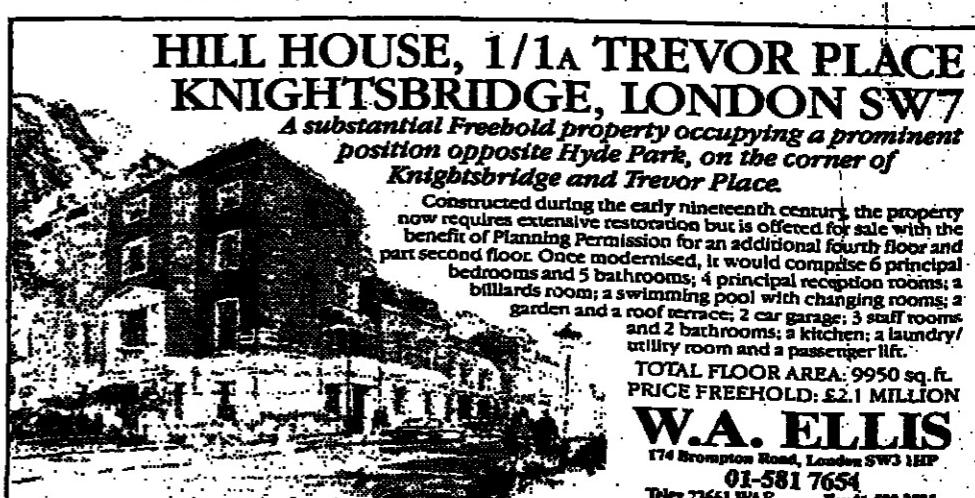
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## DIVERSIONS

Saleroom

# Driving bargains

**Antony Thorncroft goes round the sales of golfing memorabilia**

THE FACT that the world of golf has gathered this week at Muirfield for the Open has not been lost on the salerooms.

Christie's was busy selling golf memorabilia in Glasgow on Wednesday, and Phillips followed on in Edinburgh the next day. Sotheby's weighed in on Tuesday in London.

The auction house's conviction is that there is an insatiable market for antique golf clubs and balls, for portraits of golfing greats and for mementoes of the game, is not completely shared by its addicts. There have been some extraordinary prices paid for golf artifacts—Sotheby's holds the record for a club with a price of £12,500 for a late 18th-century wood—but in general golfers seem to prefer getting out on the links and hitting the ball, polishing up their collections.

Prices for the less-than-amazing have not moved much in recent years, and what interest there is stems from the US and Japan, where the queues to get a round are so long that there is plenty of time to dwell on the history of the game.

Christie's had the prize item—nine golf clubs, made of wood, by John Jackson of Perth around 1830 for the Duke of Atholl at Blair Castle. The Duke does not seem to have pursued his interest; the set is unused and was found recently in an umbrella stand in the attic of the Castle. They sold for £51,350, with one, a scented head long nose putter with hickory shaft, making the top price of £8,000. It will go into the British Golf Museum which is being started at the Royal and Ancient, St Andrews.

The blasé attitude of golfers to their past was reflected in two early iron golf clubs, made by the local blacksmith around 1820, which were also found in the Duke of Atholl's attic. Though expected to sell for up to £7,000 each they found new homes at £5,500 and £4,620. On the other hand one of the noble golf balls, filled with feathers

One is a second edition of

and made around 1830 by John & William Gourlay, the most distinguished makers, did well at £3,090.

While the impediments of

golf fails to be fully appreciated, books and pictures on the subject have a wider appeal.

Londoner J. W. M. Acidan never wielded a club in his life but collected them like a bird collector and his book did amazingly well at Christie's, in particular "The Maiden," a golfing epic by Webster Glynes, published in 1893. The saleroom placed a modest estimate of £80-£120 on this light-hearted tale but two keen collectors bid it up to £2,860.

Its rarity enhanced its value.

It was the same story at Phillips the next day when a little booklet, "Pen and Pencil Sketches of the Game of Golf," sold for £3,360, almost double the £1,800 estimate. It is a slim volume, published in 1830, and written by George Aikman, but it was previously unknown and so much desired. "Golfiana, or Niceties connected with the Game of Golf," written in 1842 by George Carnegie, dealing with the vagaries of golfers at St Andrews in those early days, also did well at £6,100.

There was a major American presence at both auctions, with the Old St Andrew's Gallery of St Andrews, acquiring many lots for export abroad. The British Golf Museum was also active. Undoubtedly some of the finest collections of golfiana are locked up inside club houses, admired by members but unseen by the public. If they were ever to be liquidated the market could soon be flooded.

So far professional golfers seem immune to the history of the game but the coincidence of the three sales could stimulate new buyers.

Sotheby's decided against holding its auction in Scotland.

Past experience has been depressing and it thinks it is better to get the golf out of the way first. It is confident that it is offering at least two lots which will get the fanatics drooling.

One is a second edition of

Thomas Matheson's "heroic-comical poem 'The Golf,'" first published in 1748. Phillips secured £17,000 for a copy in 1968 and although this version, which turned up in a job lot of books, carried a top estimate of £12,000, it could do much better. It is odd to think that the work was unknown until very recently and now this is the third copy to appear on the market in quick succession.

The other piece is a copy of Sotheby's book, a similar background.

It is a portrait of "Old Tom" Morris, the Father of Golf, painted by the respected artist William G. Mackenzie in 1904, two years before Old Tom died out. It appeared recently at a country auction where it



Detail from illustration on silver and enamel golfing cigarette case, made in Birmingham in 1911

changed hands for a few hundred pounds because the venerable figure was not recognised as the greatest golfer of his age and three times winner of the Open. Once again bids of up to £12,000 will be needed.

Sotheby's auction is modest in size, mainly because it reckons to lose money on lots with a value below £200 and most golf items still cost less than this at auction. But it does stretch itself if a good name is involved. The Duke of Windsor's golf score device of around 1920 is made of mahogany and only 3in in diameter, but it does carry the Prince's name. A top estimate of £200 seems cautious, given the excessive prices paid for

Windsor memorabilia at the Duchess of Windsor auction in Geneva in April.

Sotheby's has padded its auction out with 20-odd lots relating to cricket, a game with a much more fanatical collecting following, but one which Phillips and Christie's have dominated until now. The bat with which R. E. Foster made 287 against Australia in 1903 in his first Test is on offer for around £600, and a W. G. Grace centenary commemorative bat slightly less. But it has been golf's week and there are signs that nostalgia for the 18th hole is extending beyond the 18th hole.

## Collecting

## Early Moderns

SILVER END, near Witham in Essex, is not on the ordinary tourist route—which is perhaps a pity. For here, hidden away in outer communitarianism, is Britain's earliest and most extensive architectural manifestation of the International Modern Movement in architecture.

Today, Silver End is lost in time, a relic from the era of industrial Utopianism which created the garden village.

Here, in 1928-29, the Crittall family, pioneers of standard steel-framed windows, established an environment for their employees. Instead of a mock Tudor, the Crittals settled for 1920s' modern and engaged architect Thomas Tait to design functional, flat-roofed, steel-windowed, concrete-walled cottages, ranked like an Expressionist stage setting. At one end of the main street is a kind of circus; at the other, a larger house than the rest, impossibly called "Le Chateau" and probably intended for the factory manager.

The making of Silver End was generally credited to F. H. Crittall, the first Lord Braintree and founder of the firm; but it seems likely that the major influence was his son, W. F. Crittall. Something of the work and personality of this forgotten pioneer of modern architecture comes to light with the auction, on July 22 of the contents of New Farm, Great Waston, Great Dunmow, Essex—a modernist house which was built under his direction in 1934.

Crittall acquired his love for art at the St John's Wood Art School, in north London. His ambitions to be a painter were frustrated when his father insisted he joined the family business. His energies were soon diverted to the technical and design problems of metal windows, in which he became an expert. As a member of the Design and Industries Association, he was associated with the foremost designers of the day.

The collections at New Farm reflect the tastes of a design enthusiast of the '20s and '30s. Alongside old English Staffordshire and Delftware and Oriental peasant ceramics are works of modern artist potters

like Michael Cardew and Katharine Pleydell-Bouverie; and the honest virtues of 17th-century oak and Georgian mahogany are juxtaposed with a chrome swivel stool by Le Corbusier, said to have been presented to the Crittalls by the designer himself. On the floors, antique Oriental rugs lay side by side with jazz modern '20s carpets by Marion Dorn.

The paintings include works by Eric Ravilious and Sir George Clausen, who was a long-time friend of Crittall and went with him on painting expeditions to Walberswick on the Suffolk coast where they also met the writer A. E. Coppard, whose figures largely in the New Farm library.

The most intriguing aspect of Crittall, however, is his work as amateur furniture designer.

A modest contemporary and follower of Gordon Russell and Ernest Gimson. The furniture he planned was made for him by E. W. Beckwith, the local cabinet-maker and wood-carver from the nearby village of Coggeshall.

The results of their collaboration might not merit a prominent place in a museum of 20th-century design—there seems to have been a good sense of proportion but a weakness for over-elaboration—but it is fascinating as an one-man comprehensive plan for the furnishing of his home. It is a pity that no Silver End museum to preserve these striking period pieces in 20s modern style.

Phillips, which is holding the New Farm auction, is estimating the furniture modestly, inventively, centre table with geometric motifs is reckoned at £1,000-£1,500, and a handsome set of 14 dining chairs of classic rail-back form at £2,000-£3,000. These, as well as some of the minor items, could be interesting speculations for an astute decorative collector of 20th-century furniture.

The collection is very much on the make today as Phillips auctioneers the contents of New Farm on the premises.

Christie's is selling the library of an obscure Victorian architect, James O'Byrne (1838-1897), which has miraculously remained intact since his death.

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Janet Marsh

Robin Lane Fox in praise of orange blossom

## Scent from heaven

EVERY July I think it, but this year I have done it: I need to plant more Philadelphia.

No-one I hope is unaware of this exquisite shrub—the one with the white flowers and the scent which ranges from camphor through orange blossom (its popular name) to the fragrance of roses. On summer evenings it is divine and an intimation of a more perfect world. As the air cools, the scent strengthens and the white flowers stand out in the half-light. A scented Philadelphia is the best companion for late walks home or slow garden strolls after dark.

This year's plan has been to add Philadelphia hedge. They are intended to be more of a Mock Orange Walk than a Philadelphia barrier: they are spaced quite generously, and are supposed to touch branches in an informal avenue which I need not visit during its bare winter. The intervals of 6 ft look generous now between the young bundles of twigs but I fear they will be colliding in the 1990s. If so, the Mock Orange will have to be pruned immediately after flowering.

Next year's flowers come on the growth which is made in the rest of the season. Pruning in springtime is wrong; if you prune at all, the plant must be done in the next fortnight.

I have one or two particular Philadelphia preferences: the first concerns depth of planting.

The smaller, bushier varieties must be set quite deeply in the earth. Deep planting encourages the thickening of stems which they like to send up from ground level. They make a better shape which needs less pruning.

My other preference concerns the best varieties for particular purposes. I cannot see the point of varieties which have no scent, but some of them may mislead you because they flower so freely. The worst offenders are Brachybotrys and Burfordia, two magnificent flowerers which have no smell at all. I have grown them both and will not repeat the error.

Double-flowered forms are

also a puzzle. Much the most popular is Virginal, which I used to plant though without much confidence in its good manners.

It becomes lanky with age and sometimes can be shy about flowering. In a bad mood it throws up masses of shoots and heavily dark green leaves at the back of a mixed border, but shows only a slight dusting of double-white flowers. Pruning does not improve its contribution, and so I have gone off Virginal and changed to a new American alternative.

young stems, whereas the latter is white with a centre of golden anthers. Both are 6 ft shrubs, and neither scented and not suited to the small spaces in which unwary gardeners sometimes confine them.

In such spaces you should really try the wonderful Sybille, which grows to four feet high and wide and is like a marvellous Belle Etoile on a smaller scale. It will grow at the top of a low dry wall, in paving or on a terrace, and it really does reach four feet.

Microphylla is smaller in height and lower and is not a rapid grower. Where Sybille is too large, I rate it second best. It smells strongly of sweet pineapple.

Lastly, one Orange Blossom for a difficult corner, and another for connoisseurs. Plain old Philadelphia Coronarius really will grow in nasty dry soil lightly shaded by trees. It flourishes in the angles of ill-favoured town gardens and can tolerate cats and traffic. It is excellent light woodland, or Adonis, is a small-flowered, but it is the answer to gardeners who say they have no room for another shrub. They can try Coronarius by the bushes where its scent will be a blessing.

As for the connoisseurs, they too have gusts, but I think they might prefer a less familiar Orange Blossom called Innocence. Hopleys of Much Hadham sell it and it develops gradually into an Orange Blossom, six feet high, with creamy white markings on its leaves and heavily scented white flowers.

Innocence is not the fashionable white variegated form which grows brown at the tips in a dry place or a dry summer. Its flowers are more conspicuous and its habit is more elegant. Whereas Coronarius starts the season in early June, innocence prolongs it into late July. With this knowledge you can prolong the season of a heavenly family over the best months of the year.

Arthur Hellyer on the mysteries of plant breeding

## Thoroughbred strains

FOR MANY people plant breeders are like wizards who produce marvellous new varieties from very ordinary material. Who could have imagined that the enormously varied dahlias we grow today could have emerged from a handful of wild plants with rather undistinguished flowers bearing a single circle of petals in shades of pink, red and purple?

Or that the gigantic double-flowered begonias which attract so much admiration at summer flower shows could be the offspring of parents with quite small flowers? Or that the towering delphiniums we have come to take for granted have probably all descended from one original parent with very unspectacular flower spikes?

The answer to all these and many similar questions is that no one could have foreseen these results, not even the breeders. All varieties with different sizes, a large factor, growing in different species or varieties side by side in the hope that insects or wind might cross-pollinate some of them, or trying to make pollination a little more likely by transferring pollen manually from one flower to another.

Some of this was wasted effort, at least with true species, for nature has taken care to prevent stable plants from being unsettled by mongrel alliances. Yet just occasionally this incompatibility would be broken. Such unexpected breakdowns have led to the development of hybrid begonias, roses, gladioli, chrysanthemums and orchids.

More often things have advanced, with the chance mutations that plants frequently produce. Usually these are lost almost at once since they provide no advantage in the struggle for survival, but they may be passed on by sharp-eyed gardeners who realise their potential garden merit. Then pains are taken to ensure that mutants, or sports, are preserved and used for further development.

This was true of the Spencer sweet pea with their large, wavy-petaled flowers which appeared overnight in the 1920s. The chief subsequent development was the introduction of excellent seed strains which now dominate the popular market.

Daffodils, which as garden varieties scarcely existed a hundred years ago, were also fully developed by mid-century. There have been breaks and developments since then but compared with the early years they are of minor importance.

Further breeding of ornamental plants, however, is a different matter. Old varieties deteriorate and, like Alice, one must often keep running to catch up.

But when it does it may be possible for scientists to transfer genes with as much assurance as surgeons now transplant hearts, kidneys and livers.



The lupin: bred by George Russell in York

right. Seed saved from Russell lupin either produces more seedlings than the Russell type or seedlings that revert to the old polypodial flower-form with folded keel petals.

What impresses me most, looking back at the programmes of the last 150 years, is how quickly plateaux of excellence were attained, after which there were only small advances. Both herbaceous phloxes and peonies were already fully developed by the time I came into gardening in the early 1920s. Delphiniums reached their zenith in the 1930s. The chief subsequent development was the introduction of excellent seed strains which now dominate the popular market.

But maybe wizardry is about to creep in. For years we have been told that genetic engineering is ready to make a breakthrough into practical plant breeding. That day has not yet arrived.

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## DIVERSIONS

Choosing a surround for a painting is all-important. But where to go? Try these for size...

Lucia  
vander  
Post



# The frame game

**FRAMING** a piece of art is an art in itself. Many famous painters like Seurat and Van Gogh, felt so strongly about the matter that they made and painted their frames themselves. The wrong frame can make a work seem dull and inconsequential, or else it can overwhelm it with its self-importance. Choosing the frame that complements and brings out the picture's inherent qualities takes the eye of an artist, the skill of a craftsman, and the technique of an engineer.

These days, there are frames for all seasons—quick clip-on systems (only, in my view, to be resorted to in cases of dire poverty); simple wooden and aluminium frames; and a whole host of hand-made, bespoke frames, lovingly carved, painted and gilded to suit the picture round which they will sit.

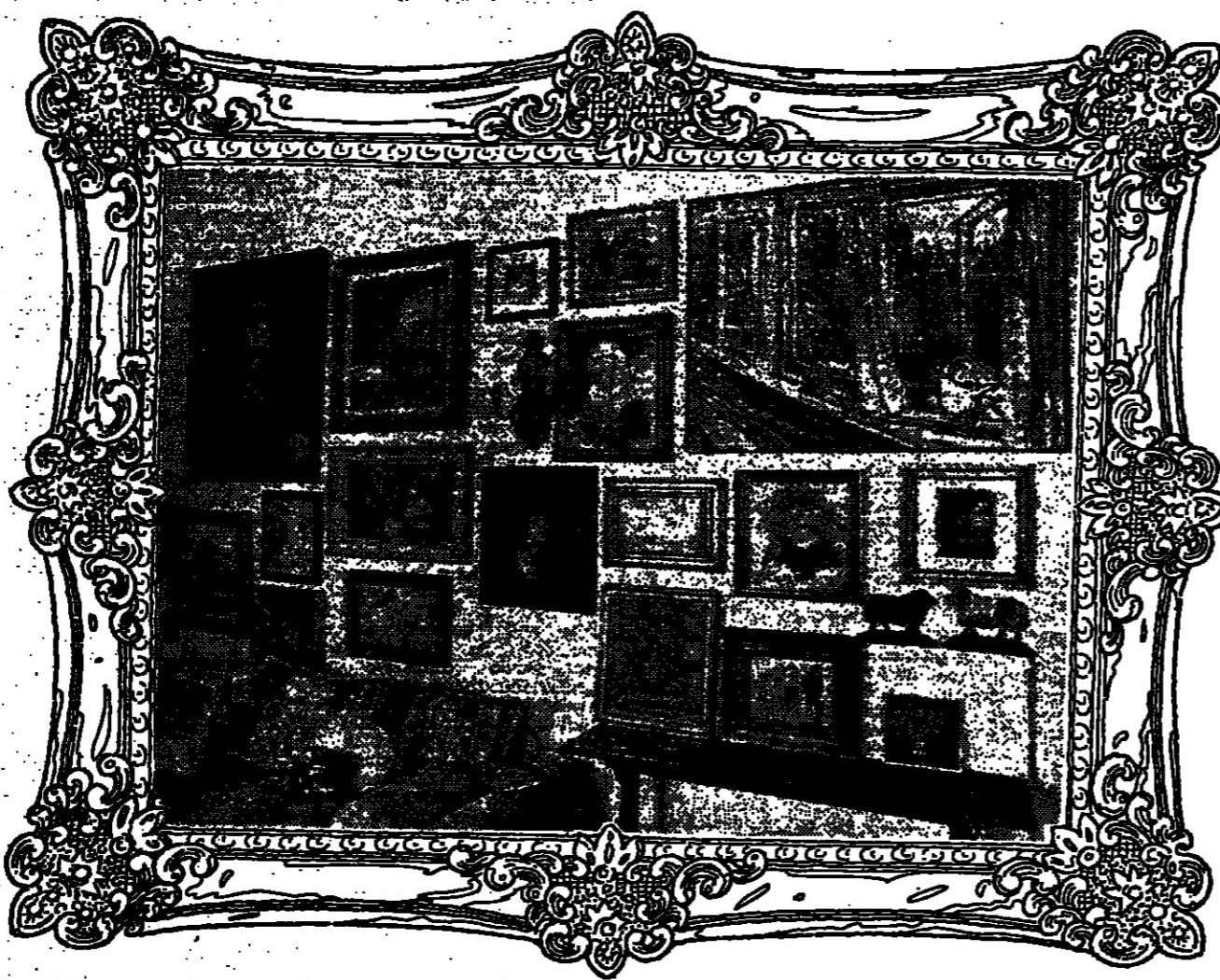
If you have a picture that is badly framed, or a new one you are longing to hang, the most important step is to go to somebody whose eye and taste you trust. Keep an eye open for galleries and other people's houses for which framers you like, and then ask who did them.

There are plenty of cowboys about—but be wary of—it doesn't take much capital to set up in a garage and offer a cheap and simple framing system but, in the long run, the results are usually disappointing. Even if it is just a colourful poster, you will find you get more long-term pleasure if it is handled with care and taste.

Here, then, is a guide to just some of the many framers around. I have not included some of the best-known establishment names, largely because they are already so well-known. I have tried to uncover some more specialist services, and to give a range from the speedy and do-it-yourself to fine, specialist glass work.

**Fix-a-Frame**, 220 Old Brompton Road, London SW6 (open Tuesdays to Fridays from 10.30 to 8 and Saturdays from 11 am to 5); and 47 Fairlawn Road, London NW6 (open Tuesdays to Saturdays from 10.30 to 6.30 and on Thursdays from 10.30 to 7, but DIY only on Thursdays and Saturdays).

Fix-a-Frame offers the customer a chance to get to grips with the craft of framing themselves. In other words you can come in armed with your print or poster (I wouldn't recommend this system or service for valuable works of art) and put



Clothes may not maketh the man but frames can make or break a picture. Here, frames, simple and ornate, show just what they can do for a picture—and what pictures, in turn, can do for a wall

together your chosen frame. This offers two main advantages: it's cheaper—a print 20 in by 30 in framed in a 0.5 in wooden black frame would cost £18.95, including dry mounting and VAT. (If Fix-a-Frame did the whole job for you it would cost £27.95). And it's quicker—an hour and a half instead of two to three weeks if they do it for you.

Although the system offers an introduction to framing, you don't get to learn the really difficult skills: the cutting of the frame, the glass and the mount is all done for you. You do get to clean the glass, attach the picture to the mount, put the hangers onto the hard board, staple the picture and hardboard together, put on the backing paper and then assemble the whole tableau. You are supervised throughout and if you make some crashing mistake you won't be charged.

Most of the frames and mounts are fairly simple; the idea is more suitable for modern works and inexpensive prints than valuable oils or old masters.

great care over adapting an 18th-century frame to fit a tray-shaped oil. He has just bought a job lot of 18th and 19th century frames ("all genuine carved wood and gilt") and although most of them are being used as mirror frames some are adapted for pictures.

If you want to see a vast choice under one roof, Frame Factory is the place for you: a 4,000 ft factory where they can frame anything from a tiny postcard to a picture some 10 ft by 5 ft. They can also frame most things while you wait—though the wait does vary with the complexity of the frame and mount you choose. They are exceedingly flexible and quite unsteady; whether it's your child's end-of-term effort or an old master you've just inherited, they'll be happy to cope.

James Goodchild, whose brainchild the place is, says they are expert at "fudging and diversifying"—that is, at improvising to meet whatever challenge comes their way. He can frame 30 modern prints for an advertising agency in an hour and a half or take

and Fulham Road).

The place to go for professional framing within a day. It will do anything from a poster to traditional framing with multiple mounts and inclines, using gilt or moulded frames. All their frames are made up on site in each branch and most of the staff are art graduates fully trained in the art of framing and equipped to give good advice. Frame Express also offers conservation mounting—though this is even more expensive, this is well worth while for valuable prints or pictures; the acid-free mounting prevents any deterioration in the original. If you have a picture that needs cleaning or restoring they have experts who will take it on.

Stewart Healep, 98 Waterford Cross Road, London WC2, and seven other branches (in Old Brompton Road, Kensington High Street, King's Road, Sutton, Wimbledon, Baker Street)

are good at what they do.

Fans of his work say that once you have had a picture framed by him, you will never go to anyone else. He is a real

craftsman, working alone, who decides on the moulding, the inset, the colours and the colour effects that will most enhance the picture.

He tends to use a combination of colouring techniques and water gilding with a gold finish which is very labour-intensive. There are many different treatments so that each frame seems almost an individual work of art. He is, so to speak, the bespoke end of the framing world.

Those who use him say he seems to have an almost perfect eye for colour and for the right size and moulding—he really does, say his customers know best. So, trust him and don't mind the three to four weeks he takes—it will be worth it in the end. He works for galleries, decorators, artists and the man in the street. Framing starts at £50 and can go on up to as much as £500.

Stewart Miller, 3 Wilkinson Street, London SW3 (Tel. 01-582 0556).

Another craftsman who uses a combination of marbling, staining, distressing and other textures to provide a suitably rich and interesting frame for each picture. He likes to design his own frames himself (although he has a top gilder, David Higgin, who does the gilding work), and he will deal with pictures ranging in size from miniatures to near-normals. He will, if necessary, work on site.

He is a useful name to remember for any repair work—he is skilled at mending highly decorative frames and also has an expert on paper restoration in his team who can deal with damaged, torn or damp prints. His prices seem exceedingly reasonable and he will collect and deliver anywhere in the Home Counties.

The Railings Gallery, 5 New Cavendish Street, London W1.

A good gallery for those interested in fine contemporary work. Eric and Gehle Sosich, who run it, are charming and take a great deal of trouble, over every customer. They see an increasing trend towards double and triple mounts and the use of several colours. They are happy to go to the home (in the London area) to advise on what frame would look well in a given environment.

They have a good team of restorers on call and mending a frame is often much easier than it looks. They also have specialists working for them who will repair and restore damaged paper—it is amazing what can be done with modern techniques. Recently, a Picasso cut by a razor was mended—the fibres were swelled up with water and then interwoven together.

Today, even water-colours can be washed without the colour being damaged, while very stained and marked papers can be restored to look like new. The Sanders recommend and supply conservation board for framing valuable works—this is an acid-free board (much used by museums) which never changes colour and never marks the paper.



Birthe Alton with a frame ready for her gesso work

Birthe Alton, The Alton Gallery, 72 Church Road, London SW13 (tel. 01-748 0606).

Birthe Alton runs one of the most charming small galleries in modern British art (oils, drawings, water-colours or gouache) from about 1880 to the present day. However, when she isn't off on a buying trip or running the gallery, she is busy hand-painting the most remarkable frames.

She started doing this because she could not bear to see so many lovely pictures ruined or rendered insignificant by bad framing. She taught herself, slowly and painfully, the very skilled art of gesso work and today is one of the few people to offer it to the public.

Gesso, for those who aren't au fait with the term, is one of the oldest substances in the world—a combination of rabbit-skin glue and whitening. Most Florentine artists of the 14th and 15th centuries did their tempera paintings on a gesso base—when gesso was swelled up with water and then interwoven together.

It is a labour-intensive technique involving the careful application of several layers of the substance until the required thickness is achieved. Each layer is applied hot, then has to cool and be rubbed down before the next is applied. It provides a marvellous foundation to paint, giving a luminosity that no other background seems able to offer.

Birthe Alton recommends the gesso technique not just for oils but also for watercolours and drawings which she thinks are often rendered almost incomprehensible by bad framing.

"There is no reason," she says, "why water-colour or drawing should not be presented as strikingly as an oil-painting."

Having seen many of her frames, I can vouch for the fact that she has exceptional taste and remarkable ability to provide a rich focus for the picture that enhances without overwhelming. Anybody buying a picture from her gallery has access to the Birthe Alton skills, but she also will undertake any other framing—about three weeks is the usual waiting time.



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## Edmund Penning-Rosseassess a nation hit by scandal

### Austria after the freeze

**WINE SCANDALS** make good copy and no more than the Austrian diethylene-glycol one that hit the world's headlines in April 1985. As this chemical is an ingredient of "anti-freeze" the matter was brought home to every wine-drinking owner: although in fact diethylene-glycol is far too expensive a product to pour into the radiator and is more usually employed in the plastic packaging industry. In addition to wine was so unknown that when in December 1984 the Austrian Ministry of Agriculture received a batch with an anonymous note stating "this wine contains diethylene-glycol" there were no techniques sufficiently refined for analysing the chemical. Three months passed before German chemists came up with the answer.

The scandal seemed to blow out of all proportion. Contaminated wine arose only in small parts of Burgenland, which anyhow accounts for about a third of the total Austrian vineyard area. Some people alleged it had been sold to have been made ill by the affected wine, but this was never proved. In comparison with the methanol scandal in Italy, when nearly 30 people died and over 100 were permanently disabled, no one died. Far more widespread frauds in Germany have been treated much more lightly, although the trade, particularly for exports, has suffered.

In Austria, however, the outcome of the diethylene-glycol scare has been disastrous. Austria is an historic wine-producing country, but not a large one: it is 10th on the European list, with an average output of 3.3m hl—which less than Greece or its former partner, Hungary. Until the 1970s very little was exported, and what was sent mostly to Germany—where some wine brokers and merchants certainly were involved in the scandal.

In the 1980s the Austrians made the same mistake as the sherry producers in Spain and the brandy distillers

in Cognac. They planted masses of new vineyards in the expectation of greatly increased export demand. A total of 45,000 hectares in the mid-1980s had become 59,000 hectares by the end of the 1970s, most of it in Burgenland where the area under vines rose from 12,000 hectares to 20,000 hectares.

No wine-growing country can expect its domestic consumption to increase along with a higher planted acreage. In any case the Austrian taste is very much for dry, quaffing wine, most of which is drunk within a year of production, very often in the *heuriger* (winter) bars and restaurants. Twenty years ago 90 per cent of Austrian wines were sold in 2-litre bottles, and about 70 per cent of them still are.

So Austria's increased production led to the need for greatly increased exports. Germany, the key importer, was particularly interested in the sweet wines of Burgenland, for which there was little domestic demand. In Burgenland, humidity created by the very shallow and extensive Neusiedler See resulted in a greater output of wine affected by *botrytis* (noble rot)—which is appreciated in Germany. But the increased production of 5m hl in 1982 (against the average of 3.2m hl) caused prices to fall steeply—the average price of Austrian wine fell from 38 schillings (£1.32 a litre) to 12 schillings (44p). Indeed in Burgenland it was told that some bottles were down to 3 schillings (11p).

To sell their wine surplus some Burgenland growers, probably not for the first time, resorted to diethylene-glycol to make their wines sweeter and denser.

The official reaction was swift, even a little hysterical, with 15 to 20 people, most of them merchants who had probably instigated the fraudulent addition, going to prison for up to 10 years. Yet this could not stop Austria was as long ago as 1980. Then I had found many

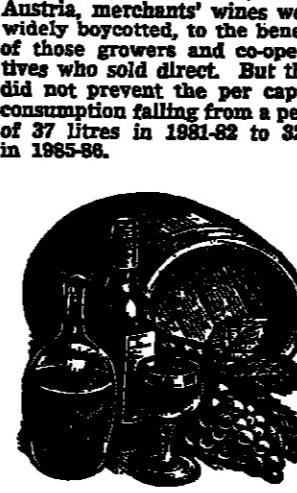
the world, which led to all Austrian wines being removed from the shelves. For a time, within months, merchants' wines were widely boycotted, to the benefit of those growers and importers who sold direct. But that did not prevent the per capita consumption falling from a peak of 37 litres in 1981-82 to 32.8 in 1985-86.

Austrian wine industry has not been helped by two very small vintages in 1985 and 1986, though excellent wines were produced then. Excessive hard frosts (down to -22 deg C in some parts, that is -25 deg F) last winter may mean a tiny one this year, too. A large vintage is not needed, as this might lead to renewed price-cutting. But at least double the 1.126 Mhl obtained in 1985 would be welcomed, to re-establish the country's good name for wine.

Austria is mainly a white-wine-producing country, and most wine is really dry; no more than 4 grammes of sugar for the trocken and 9 grammes for the halbtrocken. As the schilling is closely linked with the deutschmark, the wines cannot be markedly cheap here, but they have a quality, style and charm of their own which should restore their reputation and earn them a place on the sophisticated tables of the wine world, including our own.

The panicky government rushed through a new wine law that was first published on June 29, 1985, appeared in parliament on August 29 and became law on November 1. It was so strict that it appeared to make every wine grower— and there are 42,000 in Austria, of whom more than 8,000 are professionals—a potential criminal. The bureaucracy established such a grip on export permits—which were both time-consuming and moderately expensive—that it was surprising that merchants or growers had the stamina to stand the strain and delays.

My previous wine visit to Austria was as long ago as 1980. Then I had found many



Wine

Worse was to befall the exporters. Austrian wine exports were chopped from 478,000 hl in 1984 to 269,000 hl in 1985 and 42,00



THE AVIGNON Festival continues every night with different shows until August 6. It has always looked to abroad for inspiration as much as to France, and this year is no exception. The Festival is lavishly honouring two living Frenchmen, playwright Robert Pinter (several of whose works have been heard on Radio 3) and composer Olivier Messiaen. It is also casting its net widely enough to include performances of French versions of O'Neill's *A Moon for the Misbegotten*, two plays by Kleist, and Pinter's *Other Places*, called here *Autres Horizons*.

The cloisters of the lovely Carmelite Church in Avignon is not perhaps the most natural setting for three one-act plays of Pinter's, two of which take place entirely indoors. Nonetheless this staging by actors of the Comédie Française, directed by Bernard Murat from translations by Eric Kahane, proved to be of considerable importance and will add to Pinter's reputation in France. The situations of extreme stress which Pinter evokes remain valid whatever the venue.

When I heard the burst of sacred music with which the performance began I thought they were going to overdo it. But luckily, no. Once that was over, all was well. The highlight of the evening was on which this playwriting had so rapidly succeeded as *A Kind of Alaska* got under way. Hornby (Alain Mottet) slowly pulled aside the white curtain masking the sick bed where his long-time patient Deborah (Claude Winter), herself shrouded in white, painfully returns to consciousness after 29 years asleep. What a female role it is—brief, but brimming with opportunities for great acting! She has now to adapt to maturity without the comforting aid of time, redefining her relationship between the child within and the present self. As I watched the arousal of this Sleeping Beauty, who is clearly going to have to live very unfortunately ever after, I found myself most ungenerously wondering how someone like Edwina Feuillère would in her prime have played the part.

Claude Winter's talents are not quite of this order but she reacted with appropriately blinking amazement, hiding behind a thick strand of hair, as the full enormity of her predicament began to dawn on her. The little girl voice to which she continually reverted was that of a squawky sallow gamine by contrast to the slow-throated utterance of the bewildered woman. Her reunion with her sister Pauline was the supreme moment; it came just after her stumbling attempt to walk and then to dance. Sud-

**Anthony Curtis visits the Avignon Festival**

## Pinter plays à la française



denly a hand appeared to help her from the arch of the cloister and then the full form of her sister, Martine Chevalier.

Her played her with precision, alternating flashes of fear and joy. Both this character and that of Hornby with his

liver played her with precision, alternating flashes of fear and joy. Both this character and that of Hornby with his

rigorous formality, seemed to translate naturally into the French idiom.

*Victor Sackville*, a revue-style sketch about a lost radio cab, remains obstinately English and they did not quite know how to handle it. Every effort was made including the appearance on stage of one London taxi fully equipped, unfortunately, with yellow headlights. The Controller (Michel Aumont) got into one of those glorious rages, straight out of Molière with his wayward driver (François Barbin) and kept it up throughout, treating the lines as one long tirade. But if his Cockney counterpart would have ordered it rather differently, the piece still provided an amusing entrée for the final act, *One for the Road*.

Here the audience seemed instantly acclimated. Avignon is not very far away from Lyons. A play about torture is not without precedent on the French stage. One by Sartre just after the war explored the subject as agonisingly as Pinter. Both gave an unforgettable impact. As soon as the victim, movingly played by François Beaufort, landed groaning on the floor of the room with its drinks table and gilded crimson plush settee, one felt one was in the sub-world of central Europe or Latin America. The torture was embodied by Jean Le Poulin, the Comédie's artistic director, as a stout military sap in full evening dress almost cut off grand opera and thus perhaps mitigated some of the horror. But the play, ending with the disappearance of the little boy (Jeremy Zapata), is well nigh unbearable to watch nonetheless. All three works were well received by the critics and at the end Harold Pinter ascended the stage where he was applauded warmly by both cast and audience.

Theatrical events in Avignon, known as "Le-Off" have been closely integrated this year with those in nearby Vaucluse. This charming Provençal town, linked historically with the papacy, has some magnificent ancient buildings such as the Château where tournaments and jousts are held. Held here, for instance, were *Oedipus at Colonus*, *Chakow's Platino* and a riveting one-man show, *Le Discours des Assimés* by the actor André Marcon from a text by Valère Novarina. He is a French playwright of the post-Pinter generation with the same concern for exactitude of language and eccentricity of outlook. His monologue, for a loner who identifies with animals in his view of the world, was given impassioned vitality by Marcon.

Denis Winter's talents are not quite of this order but she reacted with appropriately blinking amazement, hiding behind a thick strand of hair, as the full enormity of her predicament began to dawn on her. The little girl voice to which she continually reverted was that of a squawky sallow gamine by contrast to the slow-throated utterance of the bewildered woman. Her reunion with her sister Pauline was the supreme moment; it came just after her stumbling attempt to walk and then to dance. Sud-



Japanese helkebiwa player Masatomi Doisaki and a group of musicians from Tibet

## Captivated by ancient culture

Music of the Royal Courts has

proved a fascinating series.

Andrew Clements reports

court music and immensely skilled musicians.

In the Third World of the late 20th century, it is precisely such cultural elites that are vanishing fastest; for political and economic reasons predominantly, court music has become an endangered species.

The traditions have usually been passed orally; that is

at once their strength as they gain richness and resonance with the passage of generations and their fatal weakness as family links are broken down and eventually destroyed for ever. There is around this music an intense feeling of the pressure for survival: a more compelling reason for a festival than an effort to ensure the survival of entire musical cultures is hard to imagine.

To someone who only dips a toe into the vast waters of ethnomusicology with the greatest trepidation, the comparisons of these cultures, similarities across

thousands of miles and the collective mythology which often they seem to share and elaborate, has been perhaps the most intriguing of all the facets of "Music of the Royal Courts". Now the tradition of epic singing, something which has vanished altogether from our Western European culture, remains an intrinsic feature of the art in countries as widely separated as Mali and Tibet: how the old silk route from the Middle East to China clearly traded in much more than silk, and how the music of the Chinese Xinjiang province, preserved from the 18th century bears the unmistakable imprint of the Arab world; how the art of the Andalusian court, dispelled altogether from Iberia, has been nurtured in

occur. Quite astonishing brilliance and personality, presenting music whose essence seemed to be a rhythmic energy, a glittering mesh of precisely focused lines, intricately cross-cut and interlaced. Many musicians danced as well as sang or played instruments, some did all three. As an exercise in dislodging the complacency of our own Western musical culture with its implied superiority to all others, "Music of the Royal Courts" would be hard to better.

An outstanding Konstanze in Edita Gruberova. With her breadth of style and phrasing and her full tone, she is a true dramatic coloratura. Since she has apparently given up the role in the theatre this testimony is doubly valuable.

Gösta Winbergh sings Belonte without a sign of the customary strains. The voice has a robust personality, but a solo ideally needing a Paganini or a Tauber, the Swedish tenor is a paper tiger best suited with his dramatic, Belonte presides with enormous grumpiness. No clowning, but unfailing musicianship.

The Pasha's lines are spoken with dignified restraint by the actor, Will Quadflieg.

Kathleen Battle's Blonde (in difficulty her music is not far behind Konstanze's) is delicious.

Pedrillo, too often under-

estimated, with cub tenors who can no

more manage "Frisch zum Kampfe" than fly to the moon is admirably done by Hans Zednik, excelling alike in the aria referred to, in the quick dialogue and in the mind-

utterance miracle of the serenade.

Ronald Crichton

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## Billy Joel at Wembley Arena



to Ray Charles, done in dubious taste, with dark glasses and the soul singer's voice. He does not go in for much of a stage show, just a few tricks with the lights and the image of a no-nonsense artist, deliver-

B. A. Young

## Radio

### Cool summer listening

LINGERING at the cool end of the spectrum, Radio 3 offers on Saturday a six-part biography of the guitarist Eric Clapton, *Behind the Mask*. Some time is spent on the sounds that influenced him, but it was his own speaking voice that interested me most, coherent and intelligent beyond the standard of most musicians, or music, on this channel. His life—adooption, art school, rock gigs, drugs—seems fairly typical of his generation; his talent is clearly his own.

Less cool but pleasant enough is the amiable Hank Wangford's *Looking for a Lone-some Yodel* (Radio 2, Wednesday 8.30, 9.30, 10.30, 11.30, 12.30, 1.30, 2.30). Presenting songs from sundry peoples who make what is meant of their falsettos, I was drawn to it for its curious relevance to Radio 3's current series, *Musica in the Royal Courts*, which is the same sort of thing taken more earnestly. This gives groups like the Nobes at the Court of HRH the Sultan of Kedah rather than Klipsits tribesmen singing "Hello, Jimmy Roger". You can appreciate the yodels at once, but some of the royal courts sound less amenable and

should be criticised only by experts. There is something glad-some in the drama. Me, Not yet Never Been Kissed in the Same Place Twice on Sunday afternoon; that's a six-part serial. But there's *Antarctic Waltz* on Radio 4 on Wednesday afternoon and *The Last Tea Dance* on Sunday. Ronald Hayman (Radio 3 Sunday), was not as light-hearted as its title suggests. It is about a Jewish boy from a strict orthodox family who loses his faith. He leaves in the middle of a service at the Synagogue. He will not answer questions from the Rabbi, or his father feels that when the boy decides to pray with him, he is still in danger of a heart attack. There is a will to humorise, to be facet—will he say Kiddish at his father's funeral? We are not told specifically if he does, but in a letter to his mother, he writes: "Some short hands with me and some only with my young brother."

This is technically an interesting play, the narrative constantly interrupted by brief parentheses illustrating a current point; and there is more action in it than I have recorded, apparently irrelevant but all concerned with the boy's difficulty. Peter Powlter directed an enormous cast, 21 voices, a cantor, a pianist, a band, for a 45-minute play. I admired it a lot and would have been glad to know a little more about Jewish religious care monies than I do.

B. A. Young

to the boy's difficulty. He is lovingly bent over his upright—it's a grand, actually—caressing the keys as lovingly as Liberace and hammering out Gershwin; the next he has darted into the adoring crowd like Mick Jagger on speed. There is his "one of the lads" sequence as he limply leads his band into some sub-Beach Boys acappella, followed by a tribute

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## WEEKEND FT

• SPORT •

## Croquet/Nicky Smith

**Sponsorship?** Prizemoney? Nasty commercialism? Despite the fears of the fogeys, croquet is being modernised

THE BRITISH Open Croquet Championship taking place at Hurlingham this week (finals today) has been staged against a background of lively debate about the future of the game. Far from being a pastime of curates and crones, croquet is mostly played today by men under 40 whose growing interest in promoting the sport has caused ripples of anxiety among the old guard.

The official magazine of the Croquet Association bristles this month with articles and letters for and against the promotion of croquet—the key issue being professionalism in a sport still completely amateur.

Difficult questions such as the level of prize money (at present limited to £25), have the old fogeys of the croquet world up in arms. They are horrified at some of the Croquet Association's plans for expanding and encouraging sponsorship which, they fear, can only lead to the "nasty commercialism" that television has brought to other sports.

The younger set, led by Steven Mulliner, a merchant banker and chairman of the CA's finance and general purposes committee, argues that croquet is growing at a steady, controlled pace, and that the sport's safeguard is that the nature of the game determines the type of person who is attracted to it.

Those attracted to the Open this year (48 in the singles, 22 pairs in the doubles), include schoolboys, top British seeds and, God forbid, a woman. Jan Macleod works as a textile technologist for Marks and Spencer. A former fencer, she enjoys the cool-headed skills of croquet.

She thinks that the remarkable absence of women at the top end of the game is simply because women in general play less sport than men, but she admits that the men are not always encouraging.

"They adopt a sort of elegant chauvinism," she says. "A lot of gentle abuse is given to women croquet players. One of them actually said to me once: 'You're not a woman, you're a croquet player'."

The male contingent includes



## The new guard attacks

Nigel Aspinall, probably Britain's top player, a consistent winner at the Open and also of the prestigious President's Cup; David Openshaw, Great Britain's captain, who led a team to victory against the US in Palm Beach earlier this year; and Robert Fulford, a 17-year-old from Cirencester who intends to read maths at Durham University.

Fulford plays chess and snooker and epitomises the raw recruit—he was knocked out of the singles early this week because, he says, he "played like a wally".

Proper croquet is a highly skilled and tactical game. It involves setting up breaks (like snooker) and deep concentration and forethought (like chess).

The shots are varied and precise, the hoops often smaller than regulation size. This year they used President's Cup hoops at the Open—rare for an international tournament.

Croquet's first Open Championship, according to the record books, took place in 1867. It was the beginning of croquet as a serious sport and was the brainchild of Walter Jones Whitmore, a first-rate eccentric.

Whitmore seems to have spent his life inventing things that never quite worked and writing appalling poetry, but he transformed croquet from an open-air pastime into an intellectual game.

In the process, he helped stage some spectacular events, culminating in a huge tournament at Aldershot in 1871 in which horse artillery and dragoon guards took part, the croquet lawns were marked with huge Union Jacks, and the top place to the strains of Offenbach.

By comparison, the old guard of today would seem to have little to fear from sponsorship or television.

A st woman to put the ball across than it does for a 12 st man. It's a slight disadvantage, of course, but at competition level it counts.

This is the first year that Carlsberg has sponsored the Open at Hurlingham—another feather in the cap of Chris Hudson, the Croquet Association's development officer, and of the CA's secretary, Brian Macmillan.

Both would like to see more sponsorship, and in an effort to attract more interest from the public they launched a national garden croquet competition earlier this season. The hope was to encourage garden players to take the game more seriously and perhaps join one of the 140 or so official clubs throughout Britain.

Most newcomers to croquet are surprised to discover that it is, indeed, an international sport. Test matches are played every four years on a triangular basis between Britain, Australia and New Zealand, while the US is expected at Hurlingham next year and Japan, which also takes a lively interest in the game, in 1989. There are also plans for the foundation of a World Federation of Croquet.

Chris Hudson would dearly like to see the sport televised, though the game doesn't lend itself too readily to the small screen. It's difficult to pick up halfway through when nothing much may appear to be happening, and as croquet is very much a game of control it lacks the emotional flamboyance of a sport like tennis. However, croquet certainly has its share of characters.

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I believe we are in for a surprise. It is my opinion that we are about to see the first real outsider to win at Muirfield since Alf Perry in 1935'

IT WAS always better in the old days! Having spent over a week since arriving in Scotland slogging through yards rather than feet of egregious clagtrap supposedly drumming up reader interest in the 116th Open Championship, the memory banks were working overtime among our older fellows long before a shot was fired in earnest. I ever witnessed in beating Hyndman by 3 and 2. I did not see Nicklaus play again as an amateur, but have since, like practically everyone else, come to revere him as a professional and a gentleman.

Dr. Weather had searched the green Kest Linke to a stop and Berman, outdriven by up to 100 yards from practically every tee, gave maybe the greatest day-long putting exhibition I ever witnessed in beating Hyndman by 3 and 2. I did not see Nicklaus play again as an amateur, but have since, like practically everyone else, come to revere him as a professional and a gentleman.

There was hardly time to draw breath before returning to Muirfield for the Open Championship a month later. In bygone days the qualifying rounds were played at the championship venue itself—not on a selection of largely unworthy nearby courses. The successful over 36 holes on Monday and Tuesday then played on Wednesday and Thursday before the cut was made, and the survivors went at it over the final 36 holes on Friday.

In those days the leaders were not sent out last, and it was mighty difficult to decide who had won until it was all over. But South Africa's Gary Player, then 23, knew he was in with a very good chance early in the afternoon, though it seemed to him as if he had thrown everything away at the 72nd hole when he finished with a most untidy double bogey six.

One of the most poignant photographs in my prized collection shows Player weeping inconsolably and leaning on his loyal wife Vivienne's shoulder at the recorder's tiny hut.

Player returned, apparently heartbroken, to his hotel room in North Berwick. There he was awakened three hours later by his sponsor, the late and

much lamented South African sports benefactor, George Blum.

He told Gary that the trophy was his if he cared to return to collect it.

Fred Bullock, a teaching professional from Prestwich who had been played by seven shots—68 to 75—after the first round, had failed to tie with the elegant Belgian Floris van Donck for second place, four strokes behind the little South African, who thereby won his first major title of a momentous and still far from completed career.

In 1968 at Muirfield, Nicklaus finally won the Open Champion-

## Open Golf Championship, Muirfield/Ben Wright

## Time for a genuine outsider

licking their wounds after yet another humiliating defeat at the hands of the American cup holders.

The following week I was to watch Nicklaus fail to win the Amateur Championships at Royal St. George's, Sandwich, one of the very few blemishes on his incomparable record. His Walker Cup teammate, Deane Beman, then a stubby crew-cut youngster, beat yet another big Bill Hyndman, in the 56th final.

Dr. Weather had searched the green Kest Linke to a stop and Berman, outdriven by up to 100 yards from practically every tee, gave maybe the greatest day-long putting exhibition I ever witnessed in beating Hyndman by 3 and 2. I did not see Nicklaus play again as an amateur, but have since, like practically everyone else, come to revere him as a professional and a gentleman.

There was hardly time to draw breath before returning to Muirfield for the Open Championship a month later. In bygone days the qualifying rounds were played at the championship venue itself—not on a selection of largely unworthy nearby courses. The successful over 36 holes on Monday and Tuesday then played on Wednesday and Thursday before the cut was made, and the survivors went at it over the final 36 holes on Friday.

In those days the leaders were not sent out last, and it was mighty difficult to decide who had won until it was all over. But South Africa's Gary Player, then 23, knew he was in with a very good chance early in the afternoon, though it seemed to him as if he had thrown everything away at the 72nd hole when he finished with a most untidy double bogey six.

One of the most poignant photographs in my prized collection shows Player weeping inconsolably and leaning on his loyal wife Vivienne's shoulder at the recorder's tiny hut.

Player returned, apparently heartbroken, to his hotel room in North Berwick. There he was awakened three hours later by his sponsor, the late and

much lamented South African sports benefactor, George Blum.

He told Gary that the trophy was his if he cared to return to collect it.

Fred Bullock, a teaching professional from Prestwich who had been played by seven shots—68 to 75—after the first round, had failed to tie with the elegant Belgian Floris van Donck for second place, four strokes behind the little South African, who thereby won his first major title of a momentous and still far from completed career.

In 1968 at Muirfield, Nicklaus finally won the Open Champion-



Getting down to the job: Titleholder Greg Norman takes a long, low look

willingly to pound the pathways in Dunham Forest, Cheshire, as we reduced our respective heroic frames to more respectable proportions.

Alas, Thomas was to die for a second place again, this time with the colourful American Doug Sanders, and I was permanently dismissed as a trainer, only to turn biographer.

In 1973 we returned to Muirfield to witness Lee Trevino's unlikely but successful defence of the title he had won at Royal Birkdale the previous July. By then I had become accustomed to following Tony Jacklin around the world of golf on behalf of the readers of this newspaper, and it seemed that victory was Jacklin's for the taking when, on the 71st tee, Trevino was twice forced to back away from his drive by a photographer, who eventually succeeded in darting across the fairway.

Trevino turned to me when his eventual tee shot hit a bunker and said: "That goddam photographer has cost me my title."

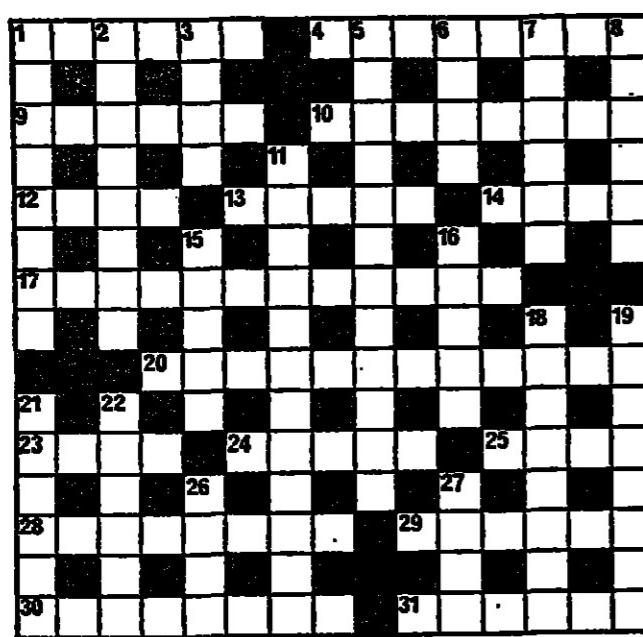
Lee bunted three shots casually down the right rough, muttering many Latin oaths along the way, and then, having previously holed two chip shots and a pitch from a bunker in previous rounds, casually chipped his ball straight into the hole from an impossible position.

It was clear to me, and Trevino readily agreed, later, that he had concentrated not at all on the shot in question. Jacklin, who knew this for a fact, was plainly unnerved, took three sorry swings, dropped another stroke and unfortunately at the last hole and, by his own admission, was never again to be reckoned with in major championships.

Tom Watson won the last Open to be played at Muirfield, in 1980, with considerable difficulty fitting it would be if he could equal Harry Warden's record of six Open victories tomorrow evening. But I think that is an unlikely happening because we believe we are in for a surprise. It is my opinion that we are about to see the first real outsider to win at Muirfield since Alf Perry in 1935.

## FT CROSSWORD PUZZLE No. 6,381

DINMUTZ



t indicates programme in black and white

BBC 1

6.45 am Open University. 8.30 The Family News. 8.35 Dogtanian and the Three Musketeers. 9.00 It's Wicket! 10.30 Film: "So This Is Harris." 11.20 Down Among the Z Men." 12.30 The Debates. 1.00 Right to Reply. 6.30 1987 Tour de France. 7.00 The Sunday Show. 7.30 Come and Go. 8.00 GOLF. 8.30 Steve Rider, GOLF. 9.00 The Open. 10.00 News, Weather. 10.30 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 11.00 Arthur and Phil Go Off. 11.45 Film: "The Creature Walks Among Us." 1.15 am "The Love Goddesses."

BBC 2

5.30 am Open University. 2.30 pm No Limits. 4.00 Film: "The Adventures of PC '49." 5.00 The Sky at Night. 6.00 Film: "Dick Barton—Special Agent."

6.30 pm Discovering Portugal. 7.00 Newsweek. 7.40 Points in Space danced by the Marcos Cunningham Dance Company. 8.00 Film: "Follow the Fleet." 8.30 Film: "Fascinating Film Stars." 9.00 Film: "Gone With the Wind." 10.00 TV Blue Peter. 10.30 Film: "Quatermass and the Pit."

BBC 3

6.55 am TV-am. 9.25 Get Fresh. 11.30 The Roxy. 12.00 News from ITN. 12.05 Wrestling. 1.00 Balsam: Gateway to the South. 1.30 Riders. 2.00 Crossroads. 2.30 News from ITN. 5.05 Walt Disney Presents from Donald Duck/Donald's Nephew. 6.15 Kung Fu. 6.30 The Black Sheep. 6.45 Karate. 7.45 Family Fortunes. 8.15 Special. 8.45 Film: "The Man Who Would Be King." 9.00 Film: "The Man Who Would Be King." 9.30 Film: "The Man Who Would Be King." 10.00 Film: "The Man Who Would Be King." 10.30 Film: "The Man Who Would Be King."

BBC 4

9.35 am Moneyline. 10.30 The Living Body. 11.00 Weather. 11.30 Dancing Queen. 12.25 pm History. 1.00 War. 12.35 Muran Bachemusen. 1.00 Film: "Calculus" (1964).

2.00 pm The Sunday Show. 2.30 Channel 4 Racing from Newmarket. 5.05 Brookside. 6.00 News.

6.30 Right to Reply. 6.30 1987 Tour de France. 7.00 Come and Go. 8.00 GOLF. 8.30 Steve Rider, GOLF. 9.00 The Open. 10.00 News, Weather. 10.30 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 11.00 Arthur and Phil Go Off. 11.45 Film: "The Creature Walks Among Us." 1.15 am "The Love Goddesses."

BBC 5

8.45 am International Gymnastics.

9.00 Film: "The Adventures of PC '49." 9.30 Film: "The Sky at Night." 10.00 News. 10.30 Film: "Dick Barton—Special Agent."

BBC 6

9.35 am Film: "The Day After Tomorrow."

10.00 pm Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 10.30 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 11.00 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 11.30 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 12.00 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 1.00 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 2.00 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 3.00 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 4.00 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 5.00 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 6.00 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 7.00 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 8.00 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 9.00 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 10.00 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 11.00 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 12.00 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 1.00 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 2.00 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 3.00 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 4.00 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 5.00 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 6.00 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 7.00 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 8.00 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 9.00 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 10.00 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 11.00 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 12.00 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 1.00 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 2.00 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 3.00 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 4.00 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 5.00 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 6.00 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 7.00 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 8.00 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 9.00 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 10.00 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 11.00 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 12.00 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 1.00 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 2.00 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 3.00 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 4.00 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 5.00 Film: "The Day After Tomorrow." 6.00 Film: "The Day After